



ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – 2026



CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

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

Sunday, September 13, 2026
Table of Contents
Annual Report: 2025 - 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
AGENDA	4
REPORT FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER	5
CENTRAL UNION CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS	7
CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS	8
REPORTS from COUNCIL	
Council Chair	11
Treasurer & Comptroller	12
Budget Comparison 2025 to 2026 Approved Budget	14
Clerk's Annual Report	15
Historian/Archives	16
REPORTS from STAFF	
Director of Music Ministries	18
Preschool Director	19
Director of Children's Ministries	20
Youth Director	21
CHURCH MINISTRY and COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Buildings & Grounds Committee	23
Central Union Windward Ministry	24
Diaconate	25
Investment Committee	27
Mind, Body & Spirit Movement Ministry	29
Music Ministry	30
Nominations and Governance Committee	31
Real Estate Committee	32
Young(ish) Adult Ministry	33
Women's League	34
World Mission Ministry	35
Welcome & Engagement Ministry	36
MINUTES of CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	
Annual Meeting Minutes, September 7, 2025 (Hybrid: in-person & Zoom)	38
VITAL STATISTICS	
NEW MEMBERS	41
BAPTISMS	41
DEATHS	42
WEDDINGS	42

Agenda
Central Union Church
Annual Member and Budget Meeting
Sunday, September 13, 2026
11:00 AM in the Parish Hall & via Zoom

1. Member sign-in
2. Call to Order / Establishment of Quorum
3. Welcome & Introductions
4. Invocation
5. Introductions of Panel
6. Instructions for on-line members
7. Approval of Agenda
 - a) **Action Item:** Motion, second and vote to approve the Agenda
8. Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes
 - a) **Action Item:** Motion, second and vote to approve the minutes as presented
9. Receiving the 2025-2026 Annual Report
10. Reports of the Senior Minister, Council Chair, and Treasurer
11. Presentation of the 2026-2027 Operating Budget
 - a) Fielding of Member Questions in House and On-Line
 - b) Motion to approve budget
 - c) Debate on budget motion
 - d) **Action Item:** Vote to approve the 2026-2027 Operating Budget as presented
12. Announcing the Vote
13. Election of new members for the 2026-2027 Church Council
 - a) **Action Item:** Vote to approve the members of the Church Council as recommended by the Church Council
14. Thank Departing Council Members
15. Announcements
16. Closing Prayer and Benediction
17. Adjournment

View documents online: <https://bit.ly/cucmtg2026>

- Annual Report 2025-2026
- Budget Summary
- Budget Details



Report of the Senior Minister: The Rev. A. Rushan Sinnaduray

"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."
- 1 Corinthians 13:7-8

"Love Never Faileth." These three words grace the front of our main Sanctuary. They ground everything we are and everything we do. As we look to the horizon, we are rapidly approaching a monumental milestone in our shared history. In 2027, Central Union Church will celebrate its 140th anniversary. In November of 1887, Bethel Union Church and Fort Street Church came together to form our beloved Central Union Church. They built their foundation on that enduring love. We are already beginning to plan wonderful ways to celebrate this rich history together. Today, we are actively declaring that same love as we live into our strategic plan. We are building a future just as vibrant as our past.

Part of this vibrant future is ensuring we have the pastoral leadership to guide us. One of our greatest joys this year has been the search for our new Associate Minister. We are thrilled to be calling **Rev. Irene Willis Hassan** to this role. She will bring incredible gifts, deep passion, and a fresh burst of energy to our mission across both campuses. I want to offer my deepest gratitude to our dedicated Search Committee. **Marion Lyman-Mersereau, Jocelyn Pratt, and Kathy Kehl** walked alongside me to interview and review a wonderful pool of applicants. Their discernment was a true blessing.

As we look back at the past year, I am so proud to share the remarkable progress we have made together.

Worship & Music

Our worship life is where generations gather to praise, reflect, and find renewal in God's love.

- We have felt a wonderful and renewed sense of energy and spirit at Central Union Windward. This perfectly matches the beautiful, unified spirit of our regular combined worship services on the Honolulu Campus.
- Our "Gospel According to Broadway" sermon series brought a creative and inspiring lens to scripture. Exploring themes of grace and redemption through the powerful music and stories of the stage truly resonated with our congregation.
- We are making small but highly intentional changes across all our worship services. These gentle shifts help deepen the worship experience for everyone who walks through our doors.
- Our Jazz Vespers service has continued to flourish. Exploring faith through the rich traditions of jazz music is steadily growing our attendance and attracting many new regulars from the wider community.



Faith Formation: Growing in Faith

Growing in faith is a lifelong journey shaped by love. This year, we have seen incredible engagement across all ages.

- Our adult faith formation opportunities continue to grow in both popularity and attendance. Book groups and Bible studies are fostering deep theological reflection and genuine connection.
- Messy Church is wonderfully dynamic. It is constantly evolving and changing to meet the needs of families in fresh and creative ways.
- Godly Play remains a profound cornerstone of our children's ministry. It gives our youngest members beautiful tools to explore their faith.
- Our youth ministry, though small, has also been involved in various activities that reflect their understanding of living out their faith through sharing their time, talent, and treasure, and building community.

Hospitality & Welcome

To be the church is to open our hearts. Our community has fully embraced what it means to be a welcoming 'ohana.

- A renewed and revitalized Welcome and Engagement Ministry has stepped up beautifully. They are taking the lead on developing activities and events to help strengthen and connect our church family.
- We introduced 5th Sunday potlucks. We also hosted a Summer Celebration Potluck and Christmas Open House that was an absolute joy and a massive success.
- We are intentionally making more time for Coffee and Fellowship. We now gather once a month at CUW and at the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM Honolulu services, while enjoying weekly fellowship at the 7:00 AM service.
- We are proudly providing meeting and performance space for community groups, nonprofits, and local performing arts groups. This visibly demonstrates that we are a church that welcomes all.

Living Out Faith

At Central Union, our faith requires action. Our congregation has stepped up powerfully to share God's love with the world around us.

- The Church has left the building.

- Serving Aloha is now feeding close to 1,000 households on a weekly basis. This is a staggering and beautiful testament to your generosity.
- We showed up for love by participating in the Honolulu Pride Parade. We proudly celebrated and affirmed our LGBTQ+ siblings.
- We provided space and hosted opportunities for our members and the wider community to learn about crucial issues impacting our world today.
- I am incredibly proud that members of our church are actively involved in advocacy. You are courageously speaking up on a variety of issues that reflect the core social justice values of our denomination.

As we look toward the future, I am filled with a profound sense of hope and anticipation. Everything we do as church is ministry. Whether it is lifting our voices in community singing, organizing a local outreach event, or simply sharing a smile with a newcomer, every single act matters. We are so excited to offer even more opportunities for you to participate and share your unique gifts in all aspects of church life. We are eagerly looking forward to introducing beautiful new worship experiences that will stretch our imaginations.

We are looking forward to Spirit Stage as one of many new programs and initiatives on the horizon. This summer youth theater intensive will be designed for middle school students in our community. It will allow us to beautifully combine creativity, faith and youth ministry. We are designing wonderful new programs and engaging activities specifically for our older adults as well.

God is calling us into a vibrant and active season. We are a church that is alive and on the move, but we have to trust God and be open to the Holy Spirit. For all these dreams to take root and flourish, we need the members of this congregation to step forward. We need you to be willing to give generously of your time, your talent, and your treasure to make these visions a reality. We are guided daily by the Holy Spirit and fortified by the upcoming arrival of Rev. Hassan. I know we are ready to answer the call. Thank you for your unwavering dedication. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in Hawai'i and beyond.

Central Union Church Staff 2025-2026

Clergy

The Rev. A. Rushan Sinnaduray

Senior Minister

Program Staff

Margaret Lloyd

Director of Music Ministries

Melissa Thach

Youth Director

Cayanna Herrera

Director of Children's Ministries/CUPS Music Teacher

Preschool Staff

Veronique Braithwaite

Preschool Director

Shelly Taira

Preschool Assistant Director

Alana Alissa Yoshiko Anderson

Advancement and Communications Manager

Sandra Baldwin

Office/Admissions Manager

Elizabeth Christensen

After School Care Program Supervisor

Katrina Perez

School Chef

Administration Staff

Troy Tomita

Chief Operations Officer

Liudmila Gautreaux

Comptroller

Natasha Dator

Pastoral Administrative Assistant

Kristen Young

Communications Manager

Katherine Sims-Wilson

Multimedia Assistant (resigned March 2026)

Luke Magelssen

Multimedia Assistant (started June 2026)

Amy Inouye

Accountant

Leslie Lui-Yuen

Accountant

Jennie Scott

Human Resources & Reservations Manager

Martha Balkin

Funeral Coordinator

Joanne Matsumoto

Thrift Shop Ministry Coordinator

McCrae White

Audio/Visual Technician (resigned May 2026)

Elliot Ancheta

Audio/Visual Technician (Started June 2026)

Buildings & Grounds Staff

Cory Taylor

Facilities, Health, Safety & Environment Manager

Robinson Fredrick

Buildings & Grounds Lead

Eustaquio Aganon

Groundskeeper/Custodian

Rudy Lucero

Groundskeeper/Custodian

Orlando Kehl

Building Maintenance Technician

David Gonzales

Groundskeeper/Custodian

Church Council 2025-2026

OFFICERS:	Chair	David Yee
	Vice Chair	Brody McMurtry
	Secretary	Colleen Ho‘omana
	Treasurer	Brandon Lin
	Head of Diaconate	Dusty Santos

Class of 2026	Carol Egan
	Jane Fyrberg
	Maurina Ludwig

Class of 2027	Sam Failla
	Paul Hayes

Class of 2028	Grant Itomitsu
	Jocelyn Pratt
	Nathan Wong

Worship and Evangelism Committee

Head of Diaconate
Music Ministry
Pohnpei Ministry
Welcome & Engagement Ministry

Chair

Dusty Santos
Eleanor Mudrick
Mark Ludwig
Tom Kiyabu & Marian Soo

Faith Formation Committee

Children’s Ministry
Youth Ministry
Adult Education Ministry

Cayanna Herrera
Melissa Thach
Rev. Sinnaduray

Program & Mission Committee

Community Ministry
Mind, Body & Spirit Movement Ministry
Women’s League
World Mission Ministry

Ronny Lynn
Carol Alevizos
Charlene Lorenzo
Janice Trubitt

Administration/Finance Committee

Stewardship Committee
Buildings and Grounds Committee
Investment Committee
Real Estate Committee
Central Union Windward (CUW) Ministry

Rev. Sinnaduray
Sam Failla
Brandon Lin
David Yee
Janice Wakamatsu

Freestanding Committees with no Ministries or Committees under them

Historian/Archives
Nominations and Governance Committee
Personnel & Pastoral Relations Committee

Karl Hedberg
Carol Egan
Nathan Wong

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH COUNCIL 2025-2026

Chair



David
Yee

Vice Chair



Brody
McMurtry

Secretary



Colleen
Ho'omana

Treasurer



Brandon
Lin

Class of 2026



Carol
Egan

Class of 2026



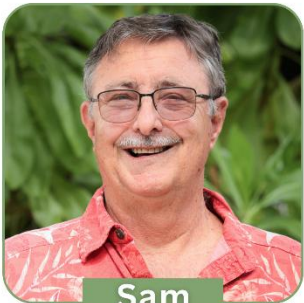
Jane
Fyrberg

Class of 2026



Maurina
Ludwig

Class of 2027



Sam
Failla

Class of 2027



Paul
Hayes

Class of 2028



Grant
Itomitsu

Class of 2028



Jocelyn
Pratt

Class of 2028



Nathan
Wong

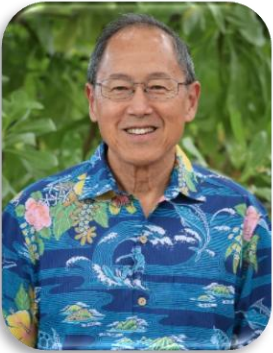
CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

Reports from Council



Worship and Music • Faith Formation and Growth • Radical Hospitality • Living Out Faith

Report of the Council Chair: David Yee



The fiscal year for our church ran from August 1, 2025, through July 31, 2026. Our Council year, however, began after the Council officers and members were elected at our Annual Meeting on September 7, 2025. Pastor Rushan led a Council retreat in place of our October Council

meeting. In early December, we combined our November and December Council meetings to avoid meeting the day after Christmas. It is hard to believe how quickly this past year as Council Chair has gone by. It has been a privilege to serve alongside such dedicated leaders and members of our church. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role and for the trust you placed in me.

Highlights and Achievements

• New Toddler Classrooms

New toddler classrooms were added on the ground level of the Parish Hall. These classrooms meet a significant community need for quality childcare, especially for working families with children aged 2 to 3, while providing an entry point for Christian formation that can continue through the teen years.

• Youth Ministry Space

Rooms 201 and 202 in the Family Life Building were renovated to provide our youth ministry with an updated, dedicated space that should serve as a valuable resource for our young people.

• Living Out Faith Through Generosity

The generosity of our members truly reflects *Living Out Faith*, the fourth core pillar that guides our congregation. One remarkable example was a \$150,000 bequest that funded repairs and ongoing renovations to the Parish Hall rooftop air

conditioning system after portions of the building lost cooling. Additional gifts made possible the replacement of the Atherton Memorial Chapel handrails, the installation of a new water fountain with a bottle-filling station behind the Women's Building, a beautiful Christmas crèche (Nativity scene), and new sanctuary paraments. As I play a small part at Serving Aloha, I have witnessed firsthand the countless acts of generosity, hard work, and love that sustain this ministry year after year.

• Staffing Milestones

This year we were blessed to fill two important staff positions. In March, Liudmila Gautreaux, CPA, joined our staff as Comptroller, filling a position that had been vacant for quite some time. She has been an outstanding addition to our team. The Budget Committee relied heavily on her expertise and the support of the Accounting Department in preparing this year's budget. More recently, the Rev. Irene Willis Hassan accepted the call to serve as our Associate Minister and will begin her ministry with us on September 16, 2026. We look forward to welcoming her to our church family.

• Gratitude for Church Council Leadership

The Church Council is always seeking members who are willing to serve. While every Council position is important, some roles have historically been more difficult to fill, particularly the Treasurer and Chair of the Investment Committee. This year, Brandon Lin stepped into both of these vital positions. He has been a joy to work with, bringing professionalism, wisdom, and a true servant's heart to his responsibilities. I would like to publicly thank Brandon for his faithful service to our church.

As I conclude my term as Council Chair, I thank God for His faithfulness and for the privilege of serving alongside so many faithful members. Together, we continue to build on the strong foundation of Central Union Church's mission and ministry.

Report of Comptroller and Treasurer: Liudmila Gautreaux and Brandon Lee

Reporting Period: August 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026

It is my privilege to present the financial report for Central Union Church for the nine-month period ending April 30, 2026.

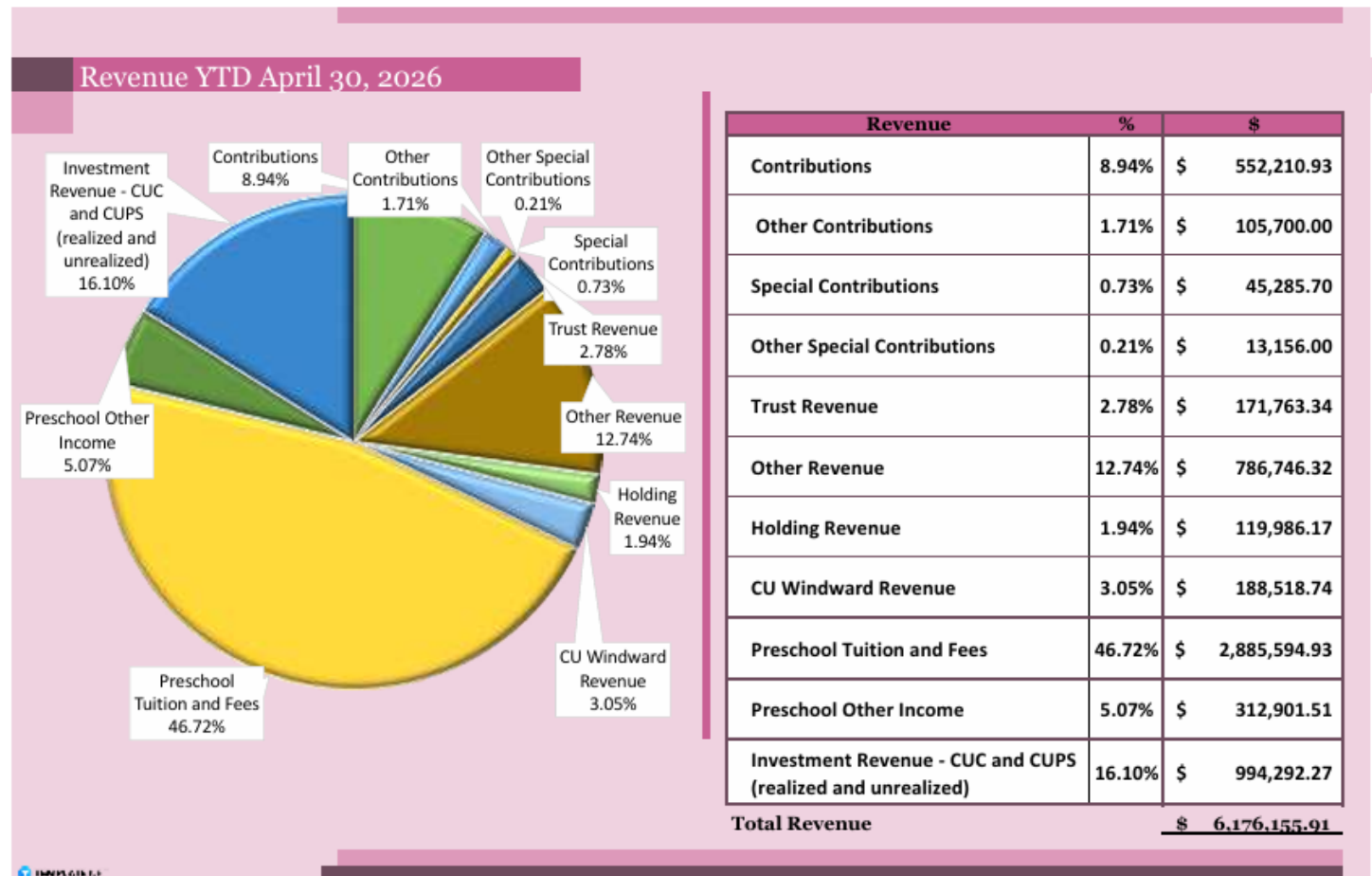
Financial Overview

As of April 30, 2026:

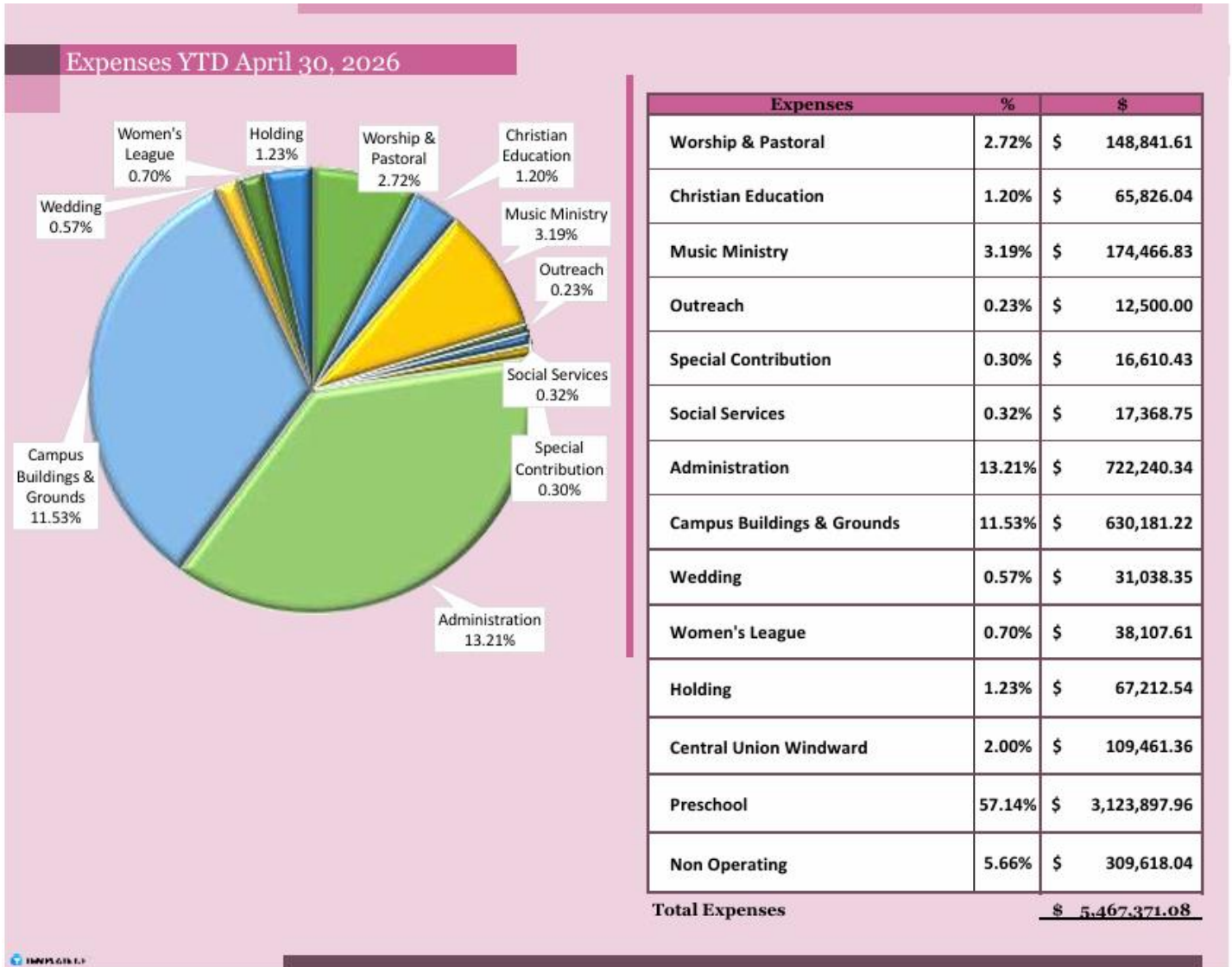
- The Bank of Hawaii Investment Portfolio had a market value of \$10,458,243.52.
- Total Net Assets were \$31,213,831.32.
- Year-to-date Net Surplus totaled \$708,784.83.

The favorable year-to-date surplus was driven in part by approximately \$994,292.27 in investment income, including both realized and unrealized gains resulting from favorable market performance.

Revenue Highlights



Expense Highlights



Financial Strengths

Several factors contributed to the Church's financial position:

- Congregational giving remained consistent.
- Preschool operations continue to be a significant financial strength.
- Administrative departments maintained effective budget controls.
- Multiple ministries operated below their approved spending levels while continuing ministry activities.

Areas to Monitor

While the Church's overall financial performance remains strong, several areas warrant continued attention:

- Wedding revenue remains below budget expectations.
- Thrift Shop sales have not yet reached projected levels.
- Continued monitoring of building maintenance costs remains important as facilities continue to age.

Central Union Church
Budget Detail Worksheet
FYE 7/31/27 (8/1/26 - 7/31/27)

Line #	Description	Budget 2025 8/1/24 - 7/31/25	Budget 2026 8/1/25 - 7/31/26	Budget 2027 8/1/26 - 7/31/27
	REVENUE			
5	Total Contributions	746,000.00	731,000.00	731,000.00
14	Total Other Contributions	14,000.00	10,500.00	5,100.00
23	Total Special Contributions	31,090.00	47,100.00	39,300.00
36	Total Other Special Contributions	13,740.00	18,700.00	14,075.00
45	Total Trust Revenue	98,120.00	175,300.00	116,200.00
57	Total Other Revenue	1,022,206.00	1,095,667.00	1,108,307.00
79	Total Holding Revenue	0.00	0.00	22,000.00
79i	Total Central Union Windward Revenue	202,737.00	180,898.00	231,000.00
79i	Total Preschool Tuition and Fees	3,713,591.00	3,808,667.00	4,317,493.00
79i	Total Preschool Donations/Other Income	391,302.00	403,702.00	311,172.00
80	TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	6,232,786.00	6,471,534.00	6,895,647.00
83	Total Investment Revenue - Church	109,400.00	156,300.00	141,600.00
79ii	Total Investment Revenue - Preschool	25,434.00	30,953.00	40,165.00
84	TOTAL REVENUE	6,367,620.00	6,658,787.00	7,077,412.00
	EXPENSES			
93	Total Worship & Pastoral	278,954.00	231,720.00	288,800.00
100	Total Faith Formation (Christian Education)	131,006.00	145,800.00	138,450.00
115	Total Music Ministry	230,982.00	242,650.00	260,950.00
125	Total Outreach	23,500.00	20,500.00	26,000.00
130	Total Spec. Contrib. Exp.	14,590.00	18,000.00	18,000.00
143	Total Social Services	11,650.00	7,200.00	19,000.00
168	Total Administration	1,130,895.00	1,102,024.00	1,079,385.00
184	Total Campus Buildings & Grounds	928,030.00	912,250.00	960,061.00
190	Total Wedding	78,238.00	59,500.00	57,750.00
200	Total Women's League	141,123.00	157,382.00	132,405.00
248	Total Holding Expenses	12,050.00	12,600.00	24,950.00
248aa	Total Central Union Windward Expenses	214,195.00	186,945.41	192,500.00
	Total Preschool Expenses	3,969,439.00	4,317,711.00	4,620,063.00
249	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	7,164,652.00	7,414,282.41	7,818,314.00
255	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(797,032.00)	(755,495.41)	(740,902.00)

Annual Clerk's Report

January 1, 2025– December 31, 2025



TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - JANUARY 1, 2025	1,361
MEMBERSHIP GAINED IN 2025	+30
Confirmation	3
Confession of Faith	10
Reaffirmation of Faith	9
Transfer of Letter	6
Associate	2
Reinstated	0
MEMBERSHIP LOST IN 2024	-20
Death	19
Transfer	1
Inactive	0
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - DECEMBER 31, 2025	1,371
BAPTISMS IN 2025	15
Children	13
Adults	2

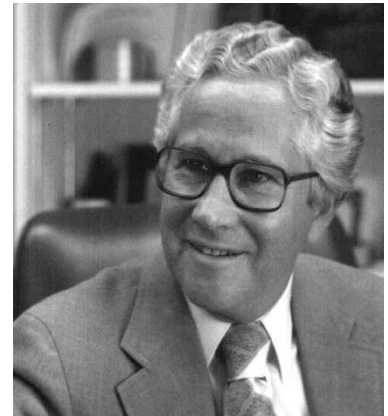
Historian/Archives: Karl Hedberg



Rev. Horace Leavitt 1931-1943



Reverend Kenneth Orson
Rewick
CUC 1970 - 1974



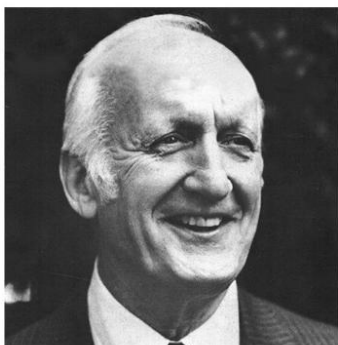
Reverend Robert Hero Midgley
1975 - 1983

Since 2022 the archived documents have been made accessible online at centralunionchurch.catalogaccess.com and at cuchistory.org.

Available for viewing are current and past:

- CUC Preschool meeting and report minutes
- CUC Church Council minutes
- Weekly video sermons
- CUC & Pohnpeian church service bulletins
- plus many more important documents.

For all to enjoy, this year we added journaling our past CUC ministers, highlighting the achievements and improvements they brought to the Church. Pictured here and online are the various ministers journaled.



Rev. Dale Turner 1983-1984



Mrs. and Rev. Allen Hackett
1944



Reverend and Mrs. Tom Crosby
March 1964

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

Reports from Staff



Worship and Music • Faith Formation and Growth • Radical Hospitality • Living Out Faith

Director of Music Ministries: Margaret Lloyd



Messiah 2025: Sarah Young, Margaret Lloyd, Dr. Martina Bingham, A. Ezinne Dawson, Rev. Rushan Sinnaduray, Dr. Alec Schumacker, Dr. Christopher Kelsey



2026 Chancel Choir, keiki, & handbells :
Sarah Young, director

In September 2025, Rev. Sinnaduray introduced his **Strategic Plan: Reclaiming our Sacred Why** based on four **Strategic Pillars & Goals**. Highlights from our ministry of music included:

Worship & Music

- Supporting music ensembles: Bellissima!; Chancel Choir; CUW Chancel Singers; CUW Kaimalino Serenaders; Jazz Ensemble; Ke Aloha Pau 'Ole; Pohnpei Ministry Choir; Pohnpei Ministry Quartet; Soloist Ensemble; The Hawai'i Nui Chorale; Worship Team; and training Choral Scholars through interaction with a faith-based community.
- Facilitating purchase of a restored Steinway Model M grand piano, and a Roland TD516 drum kit for our contemporary services, with funding approval by Music Ministry.

Faith Formation & Growth

- Expanding choral opportunities for our keiki in collaboration with Children's Ministries.



2025 O'ahu Choral Society Concert

Radical Hospitality

- Partnering with/hosting community concerts and festivals: O'ahu Choral Society; Trinity Christian School; ACDA-HI Nā Leo Hou; Annual AGO Organ Recital; Choirs of America Nā Leo 'O Hawai'i; Guitar & 'Ukulele Recital; BYU Men's Chorus; Violin & Piano Recital.
- Sharing a venue for young families to experience Music Together Aloha classes.

Living Out Faith

- Gifting a Mason & Hamlin Model A baby grand piano to First Baptist Church & Preschool of Haleiwa to replace their Sanctuary piano destroyed by catastrophic flooding during the Kona Low storms in the Spring of 2026, with approval by Music Ministry.



2026 A piano for
FBC of Haleiwa

Preschool Director: Veronique Brathwaite

Central Union Church Preschool and Kindergarten (CUPS) is a Christian-based early childhood program that promotes spiritual, cognitive, socio-emotional and physical growth in a nurturing environment and provides a solid foundation for early learning. Its purpose of educating the whole child to promote a life-long enthusiasm for learning and provide a smooth transition from home to school remains. It promotes the value of early childhood education throughout the community and provides for the on-going growth of its faculty and parent community.

The Preschool is a thriving ministry under Central Union Church and provides a nurturing and stimulating environment with a program designed to promote the cognitive, social, physical, emotional and spiritual growth of children. Teachers bring a variety of strategies based on sound and proven developmental theories that encompass the diversity and broad range of children's learning needs. The classrooms are center-based and equipped with materials that promote development through multi-sensory experiences. The children's developmental, individual needs and interests provide the basis for planning and scheduling the content of the program. Hands-on activities and experiences in drama, art and music; reading and literature; math and science; culture; physical education; Christian education; and technology are incorporated into the curriculum. An integrated curriculum based on a unit approach provides the basis for the development of

independence, fine and gross motor skills, language and mathematical skills, self-awareness, social skills, and creative expression. Children are encouraged to explore, discover, question and seek their own answers to problems. The growth of the whole child is always the focus. Excursions and outdoor and indoor play are essential aspects of the program.

Highlights and achievements of the year:

- CUPS program successfully achieved Accreditation+ status under NAEYC (National Association of the Education for Young Children).
- CUPS Preschool has expanded our enrollment to include another additional toddler program; there are now two classrooms for the Toddler 'Ohana program.
- CUPS hosted a gathering on campus for former CUPS preschoolers and high school graduates of the class of 2026 to reconnect with their CUPS faculty and staff.

Dreams for Preschool Ministry and for the year ahead:

- Re-license the program through the Department of Human Services (DHS) to increase the current maxed enrollment capacity.
- Continue advancing with our alumni base and finding ways to reconnect with former Preschool students and families.



NAEYC Accreditation+ certificate for CUPS



Center: Teacher, Brenda Liu Bitonio and son Caleb Liu (former CUPS preschooler)
Right: Teachers, Biffany Saucedo & Taryn Solis during the gathering for graduating Senior alum from the class of 2026



Director of Children's Ministries: Cayanna Herrera

My role at Central Union Church is two-fold. In Children's Ministry, it is my goal to introduce children to Jesus in a way that inspires a desire to begin a relationship with God and to provide tools to parents to help each family grow in faith. As music teacher at Central Union Church Preschool and Kindergarten, it is my goal to help children recognize and embrace beauty in the world, gain confidence, practice important life skills, and help grow their faith using the vehicle of music education.

Highlights and achievements of the year:

- Successfully helped to plan and participated in special worship services and events including: Annual Backpack Blessing, Christmas Eve Family Service, Messy Church services, and Intergenerational/Godly Play Worship Service; Annual Advent Workshop, Annual Easter Egg Hunt, and Summer Celebration activities; Annual Compassion Camp weeklong summer program.
- Collaborated with CUPS administration to grow and expand our Godly Play program at the preschool and planned and executed special programming at CUPS that included the annual Christmas Chapel and Lei Day programs.
- Led fundraising efforts to contribute to relief efforts following the Kona Low storm systems through the Lauhui Foundation in the spring of 2026.
- NAEYC Accreditation+ certificate for CUPS.
- Continued collaboration with island churches to help lead Godly Play training for our members and members of other congregations.

- Participated in the writing of an official Godly Play story on the life of Queen Emma sponsored by The Episcopal Church of Hawaii and the National Godly Play Foundation.
- Attended the Godly Play North American Gathering for continued professional development.

Dreams for Children's Ministry and/or our church for the year ahead:

- Continued partnership with CUC ministries to expand Godly Play into additional ministry areas as opportunities as presented to become a leading Godly Play church in a variety of ministry arenas including Godly Play in clinical settings (hospitals, hospice, memory care and long-term care facilities, etc.) and other ministry opportunities such as homeless and addiction recovery programs.
- Continued professional development in Godly Play as we work to lead Godly Play trainings for our congregation and members of other statewide churches.
- Continued development of our facilities to accommodate Godly Play trainings and become a resource for churches in our state to become Godly Play churches.
- Continued professional development and innovation to expand Godly Play at Central Union Church Preschool and Kindergarten.
- Continued professional development to grow and innovate in music instruction for CUPS.

2026 Compassion
Camp



Youth Director: Melissa Thach

I often tell our youth that I would not be a teenager again for any amount of money, especially if I had to be a teenager in 2026. They face so many challenges that didn't exist for us and if I could wave a magic wand and change something for them, it would be that the adults in their lives could see that they're doing their best to navigate this strange world we live in.

For many reasons, the landscape of youth ministry has changed from the time I was in high school, but this remains true: our youth need people who pray for them, believe in them, and are present with them.

We have a great group of kids, and I pray for more adults who want to be part of the crowd that is rooting for them!

Youth Ministry Highlights:

- Successful Punahou Parking fundraiser that enabled us to donate \$8,000 to the upkeep of the Great Lawn.
- \$4,000 in donations made to Hawai'i Foodbank & Genki Ala Wai Project.
- Celebrated the graduations of our High School seniors.
- Transitioned to a new space in the Family Life Building.
- Wonderful trip to Kaua'i for a Back-to-School Refresh & Reset.



Youth Trip to Kaua'i



Punahou Parking – Youth Fundraiser

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

Church Ministry and Committee Reports



Worship and Music • Faith Formation and Growth • Radical Hospitality • Living Out Faith

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Sam Failla

Sanctuary Masonry and Waterproofing Repairs

Contracted TM Construction to complete masonry repairs to the Sanctuary cornices, clean the exterior walls, and apply a clear waterproofing coating. This work was undertaken to address existing deterioration, improve the building's appearance, and help protect the Sanctuary exterior from continued moisture intrusion and weather-related damage.

Great Lawn Bollard and Chain Fencing

Installed additional bollard-and-chain fencing along the Great Lawn to improve traffic control, better define restricted areas, and reduce unauthorized vehicle access while preserving the overall appearance of the campus.

Preventive Palm Tree Maintenance and Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) Protection

Continued preventive maintenance and treatment of the royal palms and coconut trees on both campuses

to reduce the risk of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle infestation. These efforts are intended to protect the health of the trees, identify signs of damage early, and reduce the potential safety and financial impact of a widespread infestation.

Atherton Memorial Chapel Railing Replacement

Contracted Akami Solutions to replace and extend the railing in front of Atherton Memorial Chapel. The new railing will continue up to the Narthex, providing improved accessibility, safety, and support for individuals entering and exiting the chapel.

Cooling Tower Repair and System Restoration

Completed major cooling tower repairs serving the Parish Hall and Family Life Building, including replacement of the VFD, condenser pumps and motors, and critically worn internal components to restore functionality.



New Atherton railing



Bollard and chain fencing



CRB Protection

Central Union Windward Ministry: Jocelyn Pratt

The CUW Ministry met the mission we outlined of extending services of Central Union Church to the Windward community by offering worship services each Sunday morning; operating the CUW Thrift Shop every Wednesday and Saturday; and providing space for a group of volunteers outside of our congregation to bless those in our community who are less fortunate with a Food Pantry program. A small group of women meet on campus once a week for Bible study. We sponsor Boy Scout Troop 223 and provide meeting space for them and their Cub Scout Troop; in addition to recovery, educational and other groups who use the campus evenings and weekends. Part of the campus is used by Kama'aina Kids for daycare and preschool education. All of the above programs meet various needs in our community.

Members of the CUW Ministry Leadership Team are Sam Failla, Linn Garcia, Suzanne Jambeau, Virginia Kawauchi, Jocelyn Pratt, Peggy Anne Siegmund, Elbridge Smith, and Jan Wakamatsu. Cory Taylor serves as the CUC staff liaison.

- Worship was held every Sunday along with a Christmas Eve Service. Kahu Richard Walenta was our primary speaker with kōkua from Pastor Rushan, Melissa Thach and Lorna Bright also filled the pulpit as a speaker and is our Worship Musician.
- The CUW Thrift Shop continues under the management of Joan Bennett and did well enough to add an additional external storage container to accommodate space for seasonal items. We are

blessed to be supported by regular clientele, and we are staffed by members from the congregation along with friends from the community who enjoy the camaraderie and opportunity to volunteer.

- We welcomed Tearanuimoana Kepo'okalani to our CUW family as a part-time Office Administrator who provides office coverage and a presence on the campus three days each week.
- The Lifeline Fire and Security system has provided excellent service and a feeling of safety for those who use the facilities during the day and evening hours and to deter overnight trespassers.
- We worked with the Buildings & Grounds Committee to provide labor and monetary support renovating the cottage located on the CUW campus with the intention of future use by a CUC Associate Minister. In the interim, we have had a couple of short-term renters bringing in income.

As we imagine a future for the Windward campus in the coming years:

- We will continue to reinforce the ties to the Honolulu campus.
- We dream of having a permanent/part-time pastor at CUW and are looking forward to the support of the new incoming Associate Minister in September.
- We are excited about the prospect of working with the incoming Associate Minister establishing new ways to work with the community providing discipleship and growing the CUW 'ohana.



Diaconate: Dusty Santos

1. **Introduction / Message from the Chair**

This past year, the Central Union Church Diaconate has faithfully carried out its ministry of service, worship support, and spiritual care. Grounded in our mission to “Engage and Embrace All as we seek to embody Christ!”, we have offered our time, gifts, and compassion to uplift the body of Christ—within our congregation, among our partner churches, and throughout the wider community. Our work is made possible through prayer, partnership, and a shared commitment to serve.

2. **Mission and Purpose**

The Diaconate of Central Union Church is called to be a ministry of presence and compassion. We assist in worship services, provide spiritual care, support pastoral ministry, and extend hospitality to all. As spiritual caregivers and helpers, we seek to represent Christ’s love through acts of service, prayer, and accompaniment.

3. **Summary of the Year’s Ministries & Activities**

The Diaconate’s ministry continues through the work of our dedicated standing committees. Each plays a vital role in nurturing the church’s spiritual and communal life:

Communion Committee

The Communion Committee of the Central Union Church Diaconate supports the sacred practice of the Lord’s Supper within our faith community. Composed of active Diaconate members, the committee takes care in preparing the communion elements, assisting clergy throughout worship, and serving Communion to all members during Communion Sundays. Through thoughtful preparation, quiet leadership, and gracious hospitality, committee members ensure the sacrament remains a seamless, inclusive, and

spiritually meaningful experience for the entire church family.

- **Preparation:** Setting up the communion elements, linens, and vessels prior to the worship service.
- **Clergy Support:** Assisting the ministry team during the liturgy and setup for element distribution.
- **Congregational Service:** Reverently distributing the elements to all members during Communion Sundays.
- **Post-Service Care:** Cleaning, storing, and organizing vessels and remaining elements after worship concludes.

Ushering Committee

Our ushers offered a warm welcome each Sunday, guided seating, and supported communion and special events. Their presence helped maintain an atmosphere of reverence and hospitality.

Visitation Committee

Visitation efforts brought encouragement and prayer to those unable to attend in-person worship. We offered in-home visits, phone calls, and spiritual support to members in times of illness, grief, or isolation.

Baptism Committee

This committee assisted in preparing families and candidates for the sacrament of baptism, working with clergy and ensuring all ceremonial needs were met. We rejoiced with each individual and family as they embraced new life in Christ.

White Lei, Prayers & Memorials Committee

Our memorial ministry honored and remembered those who have entered eternal rest. We provided lei, coordinated service

details, and stood with grieving families in love and prayer.

Funds Committee (Louise Coates, Charles R. Bishop, and Deacons Theological Scholarships)

This committee oversaw the stewardship and distribution of scholarships for theological education and continuing education. Through this ministry, we supported individuals pursuing seminary studies, as well as youth and young adults engaged in academic advancement.

These ministries are expressions of our collective calling to serve Christ within and beyond our church walls. We give thanks for the opportunity to serve the church, our CUC sister churches, families, friends, and the greater community.

4. Reflections & Impact

This year offered us both blessings and lessons. The Diaconate responded to evolving needs in worship, pastoral care, and outreach. Whether comforting grieving families or preparing sacred space for baptism, our ministry was one of presence. We have seen how quiet acts of service—prayers offered, doors opened, communion shared—carry lasting spiritual impact.



The Diaconate greets parishioners at the 7 AM service

5. Partnership with Pastoral and Lay Leadership

We are deeply grateful for our ongoing collaboration with the Senior Minister, pastoral staff, worship planners, and lay leaders. Together, we nurtured the spiritual life of the congregation and supported meaningful worship throughout the liturgical year.

6. Looking Ahead

As we look to the coming year, the Diaconate remains committed to growing in faith, hospitality, and outreach. We hope to:

- Expand visitation efforts to include regular intergenerational connections.
- Offer more opportunities for lay leadership training.
- Deepen our prayer life through small group gatherings.
- Welcome and mentor new Diaconate members.

Acknowledgments

With gratitude, we honor the faithful service of this year's Diaconate members. Your prayers, presence, and compassion continue to bless our church and community in immeasurable ways.



Diaconate at the 9 AM service

Investment Committee: Brandon Lin

Purpose: To preserve the endowment fund to provide current and future sources of revenue for the church. The committee is responsible for the oversight of the Church's professional fund manager. Bank of Hawai'i has managed our portfolio since July 1994. The Committee is currently made up of Brandon Ho-Ping Lin (Chair and Council Liaison), Paul Hayes, David Yee and Marvin Fong.

2025-2026 Highlights and Achievements:

- The total portfolio performance from July 1994 to June 30, 2026, has averaged 7.76% gross of fees.

- The portfolio balance was \$10,434,367 as of June 30, 2026.

The graph below shows an underperformance gap as indicated by the gap between our actual and index performance. We are planning to work with the fund manager to shift the portfolio to passive index funds to more closely match index performance while saving on active fund expenses in addition to having already recently reduced our management fees.

Investment Summary

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH (AGGM24471)

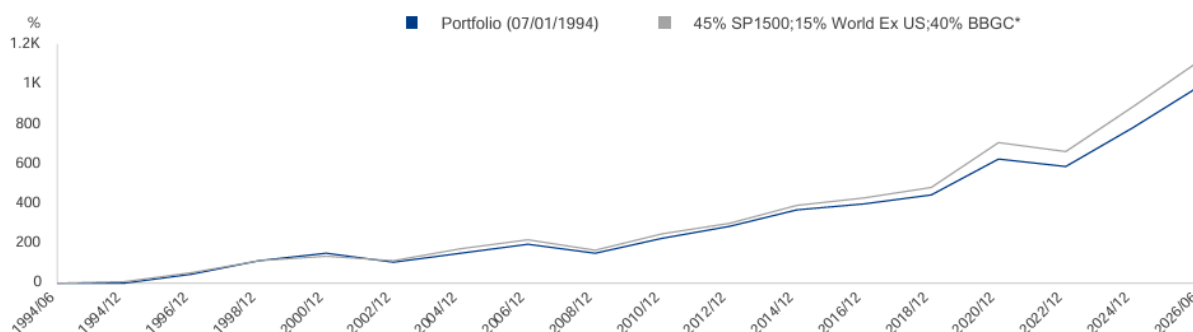
Period Ending: June 30, 2026

Managed Since: July 01, 1994

Change in Market Value

	3 Months	Year to Date (6 Months)	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Beginning Portfolio Value	9,566,343.46	9,896,155.94	9,598,978.32	7,303,024.15	9,147,337.95	5,842,657.49
Net Contributions/Withdrawals	80,777.97	-114,044.26	-471,429.29	-231,279.05	-1,593,437.31	-1,436,060.80
Fees Deducted	-11,628.80	-23,259.18	-45,878.85	-128,424.06	-206,220.96	-448,574.04
Income Earned	50,519.35	93,815.14	371,030.89	989,581.02	1,563,791.57	2,428,812.24
Net Gains and Bond Amortization/Accretion	748,355.37	581,699.71	981,666.28	2,501,465.29	1,522,896.10	4,047,532.46
Ending Portfolio Value	10,434,367.35	10,434,367.35	10,434,367.35	10,434,367.35	10,434,367.35	10,434,367.35

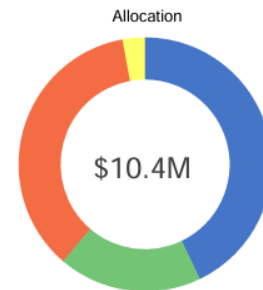
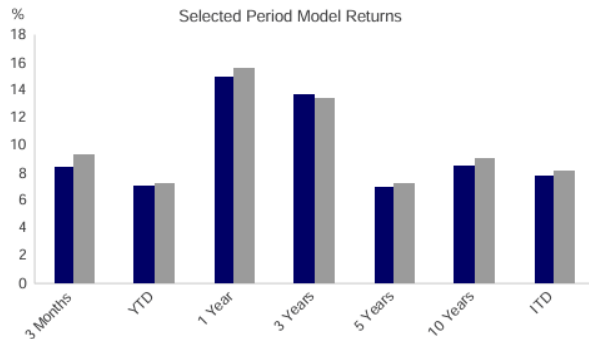
Cumulative Return



Portfolio Performance
CENTRAL UNION CHURCH (AGGM24471)

Period Ending: June 30, 2026
Managed Since: July 01, 1994

Total Portfolio Gross of Fees returns vs Benchmark



	Market Value	% of Mkt Val	3 Months	Year to Date (6 Months)	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Inception to Date 07/01/1994
● Total Portfolio Gross of Fees	10,434,367		8.44	7.03	14.94	13.67	6.90	8.58	7.76
Total Portfolio Net of Fees	10,434,367		8.32	6.78	14.40	13.13	6.37	7.92	
● 45% SP1500;15% World Ex US;40% BBGC*			9.24	7.24	15.59	13.46	7.21	9.07	8.13
● Domestic Equities	4,479,605	42.9	14.91	9.89	20.29	19.81	11.88	14.39	10.48
S&P 1500			15.28	10.89	22.87	20.22	13.01	15.18	
MSCI USA IMI			15.70	11.20	23.29	20.55	12.49	15.23	11.27
S&P 500			15.20	10.21	22.33	20.61	13.41	15.51	11.28
● International Equities	1,904,940	18.3	12.06	14.97	29.94	19.75	9.32	9.69	
MSCI AC World Ex USA NR			14.49	13.68	27.66	18.82	8.79	9.93	
● Taxable Fixed Income	3,746,516	35.9	.62	.66	3.58	4.28	.24	1.73	4.63
Bloomberg US Govt/Credit			.70	.49	3.32	3.97	-.10	1.59	4.60
● Cash & Equivalents	303,307	2.9	1.03	1.92	4.01	4.67	3.49	2.23	
Lipper US Treas MM IX			.84	1.68	3.65	4.41	3.34	2.08	2.20

Please read and review important disclosures on the last 2 pages of this report.

PAGE 6 OF 16

h Bank of Hawai'i

It is understood that the fund manager is being hired to be a balanced manager and a function of that responsibility includes asset allocation as shown in the graph above. To contain risk and provide guidance to the manager, we monitor the assets allocation to a target of 60% Equity to 40% Fixed Income split. The manager has the flexibility to operate in the range of 45% to 65% Equities and 30% to 55% for Fixed Income at any given time. We're also planning to work with the manager to slightly change the target to 55%

Equity and 45% Fixed Income split to be more conservative in the current volatile market.

As we IMAGINE Together about the future of our church, here is the dream we have for the Investment Committee for the year ahead:

- Review, monitor and adjust portfolio, Investment Ministry Charter, and Investment Policy.

Mind, Body & Spirit Movement Ministry: Carol Alvizos & Marion Lyman-Mersereau

Purpose: Our purpose is to care for our wonderful congregation via Mind, Body and Spirit. All are welcome to our offerings which include:

- **Mindful Movements with a Bamboo Stick**
Relaxing Mindful Movements exercises with Marion Lyman-Mersereau, are online every Wednesday at 4:00 PM, and in person, starting Tuesdays, September 2, at 2:00 PM in the Women's Building. It includes a series of 16 movements that help strengthen and stretch different parts of your body while

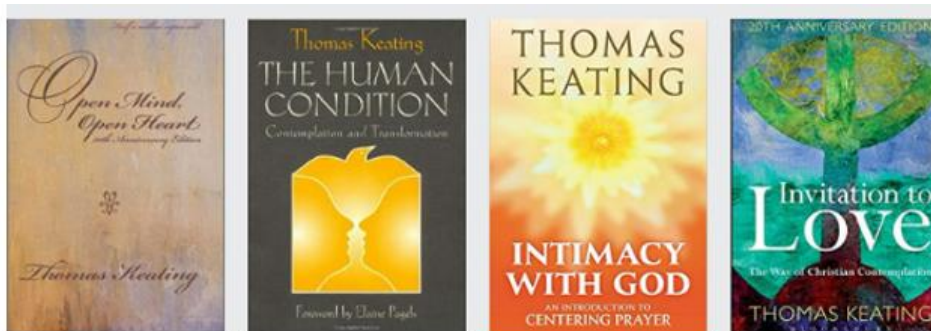


enhancing your balance. This routine was developed by an elderly Zen Master who wanted to keep his body supple. Every joint is addressed. The bamboo stick movements are followed by some gentle yoga to relax

the lower back and absorb the benefits of the routine. Supplies needed: Yoga mat, if you would like to join the gentle yoga session in the second half of the class.

- **Mindfulness Class**
Marion Lyman-Mersereau conducts a Mindfulness class on-line every Monday from 5:00 to 5:30 PM. Continuing the mindfulness practice TBD depending on interest.
- **Centering Prayer Meditation & Spiritual Journey, teaching by Thomas Keating & others**
Centering Prayer is a how-to method to deepen our relationship with God. "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10. Carol Alevizos offers a weekly in-person small group in the Rewick Boardroom on Wednesdays at 6:30 to 8:00 PM. There is also a Morning of Centering Prayer Meditation on the third Saturday of every month from 9:00 to 11:30 AM in the Women's Building where members of Centering Prayer groups from around the island gather together for Centering Prayer. A class is provided for newcomers.

"If we believe and hope that we are going to be Living with God forever, why not get acquainted with this Extraordinary Presence now." - Meridith S.



Music Ministry: Eleanor Mudrick

Members: Eleanor Mudrick, Chairperson, Dr. Kalani Brady, Lisa Haley, Youth Rep. Casey Jones, Maurina Ludwig, Joan O'Mara, Timothy Lum Yee, and Jane Fyrberg, Council Liaison.

Highlights of our year:

- Handel's *Messiah*, 76th Annual performance, under the direction of Dr. Alec Schumacker, was presented on December 14, 2025, at 7:30 PM. We had 17 Ushers / Offering Collectors: Robin Campbell, Veronica Cheung, Kara Dooley, Kevin Dooley, Thomas Ekman, Lisa Haley, Stephen Haley, Casey Jones, Pili Lee Loy, Maurina Ludwig, Marion Lyman-Mersereau, Eleanor Mudrick, Mark Norseth, Laura St. Denis, Dusty Santos, Helen Thomas, Fanny Yeung.
- Drum Set purchased. The Music Ministry appreciated the challenge the Worship Team
- faced without their own professional drum set and voted unanimously to fund the purchase to support the musicians and the Contemporary 11:00 AM service.
- We purchased a restored Steinway Model M grand piano as an upgrade in the Women's Building, to support CUC and community events.
- We donated our Mason & Hamlin pre-depression era baby grand piano, formerly in the Women's Building, to the First Baptist Church & Preschool of Haleiwa that suffered flooding during the Kona Low storms, which destroyed their piano.
- We added 4 new Music Ministry members: Casey Jones, Maurina Ludwig, Joan O'Mara, and Timothy Lum Yee.



2025 Messiah



11 AM Worship Team with new Drum Kit



Our restored Steinway Model M grand piano

Nominations & Governance Committee: Carol Egan

Committee: Carol M. Egan, Esq. Chair; Jane Fyrberg, M.D.

The Nominations and Governance Committee (the “Committee”) of Central Union Church (the “Church”) is tasked with the following primary responsibilities:

1. Identify and nominate from the congregation to serve as Officers of the Church and as members of the Church Council (the “Council”) and to recommend candidates to serve on search committees and special advisory committees to the extent required by the Council Chair; and
2. Review the governing documents of the Church and its Committees (i.e. Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Charters) and recommend changes where appropriate; and
3. Address and work to resolve conflicts of interest that may arise from time to time.

For the upcoming Council year, the Committee identified and **nominated for consideration and approval of the congregation**, the following Church members to serve as Council members for the following offices and terms:

Officer positions for a two-year term ending in 2028:

Vice Chair - Tom Kiyabu
Secretary - Melinda Dallass
Treasurer - Charlie Field

At Large positions for a three-year term ending in 2029:

Kelly Eikenberg
Brandon Lin

At Large position for a one-year term ending in 2027:

Gary Kobayashi

Note that the other Officer positions and At Large positions on the Council are currently filled by Church members who are competing multi-year terms.

The Committee is not recommending any further changes to the Church’s governing documents at this time.

To ensure that Council decisions are made free of conflicts of interest (so that Church members have confidence that Council members are acting solely for the benefit of the Church and its Committees) the Committee has been available to resolve any conflicts of interest that have arisen.



Tom Kiyabu



Melinda Dallass



Charlie Field



Brandon Lin



Kelly Eikenberg



Gary Kobayashi

Real Estate Committee: Carl Schlack

On March 5, 2023, the Congregation of Central Union Church (the “**Church**”) voted to allow the use of available areas on our Honolulu and Windward campuses to generate revenue needed to address the Church’s ongoing financial concerns. Shortly thereafter, a Real Estate Committee (“**REC**”) was formed to explore revenue producing real estate ventures with the potential to generate revenue sufficient to assure the continuation of the Church and its missions throughout the remainder of the 21st century.

The 2025 Annual Report summarized the work of the REC from 2023 through August 2025, ending with the REC’s decision, after reevaluating its development and financial assumptions, to focus on smaller and medium size projects that are realistically achievable and still able to provide meaningful financial support instead of a single large, multi-phase development intended to resolve all the Church’s long term financial concerns.

During the past year, the REC has been working with an experienced developer of affordable housing to explore the possibility of developing a moderately sized affordable rental housing project for seniors on our Honolulu campus. Representatives of the REC and the developer have engaged in meetings (in

person and via Zoom), teleconferences, and have reviewed proposed conceptual renderings and initial financial assumptions regarding development and construction costs. We are in the very preliminary stages with the developer, and no commitments have been made but we are making progress.

Although there also have been some discussions with the same developer for the development of a low-rise senior affordable housing project on our Windward campus, the restrictions in the land deed to our Windward campus (restrictions in favor of the Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation Trust) make such a project less feasible. Instead, the REC has been exploring the expansion of childcare and early childhood education programs and facilities on our Windward campus given that such uses are consistent with CUC’s community outreach mission while also aligning with the express mission of the Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation Trust. Discussions with a current provider of such services are ongoing but remain preliminary at this time.

The REC currently consists of David Yee, Martha Balkin, Paul Shinkawa, Dona Hanaike, John Field, Paul Hayes, Carolyn Bell-Tuttle, Brandon Lin, and Carl Schlack.



Young(ish) Adult Ministry: Kristen Young

Central Union Young(ish) Adult Ministry

Highlights:

- September 17, 2025 - Dinner Church.
- October 26, 2025 - Brunch Bunch.
- 2025 Christmas party.
- Wider church participation: 2 CUC young adults were volunteer chaperones at the 2026 Hawai'i Conference United Church of Christ 'Aha youth event (June 10-13, 2026).
- Community connections: 3 CUC young adults participated in the O'ahu Resilience

Hub Summit (June 5-6, 2026) hosted by CERENE (Center for Resilient Neighborhoods) to explore how CUC could contribute to community resilience.

- July 29, 2026 - Game Night & Potluck Party.

Looking Ahead

- Greater collaboration with other ministries.
- Events to include wider church.
- Events to engage with wider community.



2025 Christmas Party



Game Night drawing



Dinner Church



Chaperones for 'Aha Youth

Women's League

**Every woman who is a member of Central Union Church
is considered a member of the Women's League.**

Our officers:

President: Charlene Lorenzo; *Vice Presidents:* Jennifer Courtney, Evy Hao, and Jodee Farm; *Treasurer:* Valrie Griffith; *Thrift Shop Treasurer:* Charise Shigeta; *Thrift Shop Liaison:* Maura Yee; *Flowers:* Dona Hanaike; *Scholarships:* Caitlin Middleman.

The Women's League Board meets monthly on the second Saturday on Zoom. They hold an Annual Meeting each Fall.

The Women's League's main outreach activity is the Thrift Shop. **The Thrift Shop** is a tangible connection between Central Union Church and the community. It recycles goods and provides articles for sale at low cost. It is the source of funding for other significant outreach ministries such as College Scholarships and donations to 12 nonprofit organizations. They made a total of \$68,000 in 2025. Joanne Matsumoto is the Thrift

Shop Ministry Coordinator.

In May 2026, we chose 22 scholarship recipients. They were each awarded \$2,000.

In June 2025, the Women's League Board chose twelve nonprofit organizations to receive donations totaling \$32,500.

The Women's League also supports the **floral arrangements** for the three Sunday services, the **annual Women's Retreat** and helping with many of the larger Church events.

For the last two years, members of the Women's League have been revising the **Bylaws** to make them less wordy and involve fewer officers. The Board voted to approve the revised Bylaws in July and will present them to the women of the Church on September 26, 2026, at their Annual Meeting.



2026 Scholarship recipients



Women's League members

A Youth
Member mans
the Thrift Shop



A visit with
Ruth Stepulis



World Mission Ministry

End of the Fiscal Year July 31, 2026 = \$9,416.78

Revenue – Holding

1/3 Christmas Eve Offering \$3,318.50

Expense – Operating

World Mission Projects	\$2,000.00
Philippine Seminarians	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Operating Expense	\$3,000.00

Expense – Holding

Faith Action for Community Equity (2/22/26)	
Wai Nau Gaza Water Project	\$3,268.50

Total Expenses Covered by Holding	\$3,268.50
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Ministry Income (loss)	<u>50.00</u>
	\$3,318.50

We had two projects – Philippine Seminarians in Fall 2025 and in the Spring 2026 the Wai Nau Gaza Water Project.



Photos from the Spring 2026 Wai Nau Gaza Water Project Zoom presentation.

Welcome & Engagement Ministry: Tom Kiyabu & Marion Soo, Co-Chairs

"The mission of the Welcome & Engagement Ministry is to provide a welcoming environment of love, acceptance, comfort, support, care, and unity for visitors, members, guests, and friends in order to enhance their worship experience, encourage fellowship, and help build and strengthen the community that is Central Union Church."

Over the past year, our renewed and revitalized Welcome & Engagement Ministry has embraced this mission wholeheartedly, stepping up beautifully to serve our congregation. They have taken the lead in developing engaging activities and vibrant events designed to deepen our connections and strengthen our Central Union Church family.

Highlights from the Year:

- **Regular 5th Sunday Potlucks:** These gatherings have enjoyed wonderful attendance and enthusiastic participation, consistently bringing us together over shared meals.
- **Revival of the Christmas Open House:** We successfully brought back this beloved tradition, which fostered a beautiful, festive sense of community and fellowship.
- **Inaugural Summer Celebration Potluck Party:** This new event generated incredible energy and excitement, highlighting the strong, growing bonds within our congregation.
- **Expanded Coffee & Fellowship:** We cultivated consistent spaces for connection

by hosting monthly gatherings at CUW, as well as regular fellowship after the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services at the town campus, and weekly following the 7:00 AM service.

- **Return of the Learning Trees:** We successfully resumed this program, which is steadily growing in both interest and active participation.
- **"Church Has Left the Building" Sunday:** We celebrated a highly successful community-in-action Sunday in 2025, and we are eagerly planning to repeat this impactful event in 2026.

Remember, a church is not defined by its buildings, its budget, or its physical structures. A church is defined entirely by its people.

As we look forward to a season of renewal and rebuilding here at Central Union, let us remember that our greatest asset is each other. We encourage every one of you to reach out and connect deeply with one another. Let us also be highly intentional about inviting and welcoming new friends, guests, and neighbors to join our wonderful, growing community.



2025 Christmas Open House



Some made "genki" balls and some wrote greeting cards to shut-ins during "Church Has Left the Building" Sunday

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

Minutes of the Congregational Meeting



Minutes

Central Union Church

Annual Member and Budget Meeting

Sunday, September 7, 2025 11:00 AM in the Parish Hall & via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Establishment of Quorum

- Meeting called to order at **11:32 AM**.
- Quorum confirmed

2. Welcome & Introductions

- David Yee welcomed attendees in person and online, thanked them for participation.
- Purpose of meeting outlined:
 - a. Approval of 2024 Annual Meeting and Budget Meeting minutes.
 - b. Vote on the 2025–2026 Operating Budget.
 - c. Receipt of reports from Treasurer, Council Chair, and Senior Minister.
 - d. Election of new Council members.
- Announcement: Treasurer Ciarra Sapigao resigned due to professional obligations; David Yee presented the budget in her place.
- Notice of meeting was properly given per bylaws; documents were distributed via website, CU Weekly, and hard copies upon request.

3. Invocation

- Pastor Rushan led prayer, emphasizing unity, clarity, and stewardship.

4. Instructions for Online Members

- Guidelines for participation, voting, and technical support provided.
- Members practiced using Zoom “Raise Hand” feature for voting and questions.

5. Approval of Agenda

- Revised agenda (same items, different sequence) presented.
- **Motion:** John Steelquist; **Second:** Jackie Lane.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.

6. Approval of 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

- Minutes were made available in the Annual Report.
- **Correction:** Term dates for Council officers should read **2024–2026** (not 2023–2025).
- **Motion:** Approved with correction; no further amendments.
- **Vote:** Passed unanimously

7. Receipt of 2024–2025 Annual Report

- Annual Report previously distributed; no additional updates.

8. Reports of Senior Minister, Council Chair, and Treasurer

- Written reports included in Annual Report.
- No further updates provided.

9. Presentation and Approval of 2025–2026 Operating Budget

- **Budget Overview:**
 - **Revenue:** \$6.65M
 - Preschool: \$3.8M
 - Other revenue (facility use, Thrift Shop, weddings): \$1.1M
 - Pledges & Open Plate: \$731K
 - **Expenses:** \$7.4M
 - Preschool: \$4.2M

- Administration: \$1M
- Buildings & Grounds: \$900K
- **Deficit:** \$755K (consistent with prior years; will draw from endowment).
- **Key Budget Discussion Points:**
 - Preschool net contribution: \$426K (includes 10% facility contribution).
 - Declining pledges due to membership trends; stewardship emphasized.
 - Real Estate Committee proposal: add toddler classrooms for \$95K additional revenue.
 - Facility use and weddings identified as growth opportunities.
 - Insurance premiums increased industry-wide; no claims caused the rise.
 - GET (General Excise Tax) included in expense lines but not broken out in slides.
 - Windward Campus budget lines clarified:
 - 248Y – Ministry Outreach Windward (\$7,000)
 - 248V – Hospitality Windward (\$300).
- **Action Item:** Motion to approve budget as presented.
- **Vote:** Passed with **one opposed**.

10. Election of 2025–2026 Church Council Members

- **Nominees (three-year terms ending 2028):**
 - Grant Itomitsu
 - Jocelyn Pratt
 - Dr. Nathan Wong
- **Vote:** Each candidate approved unanimously.
- **Departing Members:** Melveen Chun, Janice Wakamatsu.
- **Acknowledgment:** Thanks extended to Martha Balkin and Ciarra Sapigao for prior service.

11. Announcements

- Jazz Vespers service at Atherton Memorial Chapel later that evening.

12. Closing Prayer and Benediction

- Pastor Rushan offered prayer for vision, courage, and shared commitment.

13. Adjournment

- **Motion:** John Steelquest; **Second:** Kalani Brady.
- Meeting adjourned.

Supporting Documents:

- Annual Report 2024–2025
- Annual Report previously distributed; no Budget Summary (FYE 7/31/2026)
- Budget Detail (FYE 7/31/2026)

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Ho’omana, Secretary,
Central Union Church Council

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

Vital Statistics



Worship and Music • Faith Formation and Growth • Radical Hospitality • Living Out Faith

Report of New Members: in August 2025 through July 2026

Member #	Name	Date	How
15836	Jeter, Charisse	August 24, 2025	Confession
15837	Sinnaduray, Arushini	November 2, 2025	LTO
15838	Sinnaduray, Aran	November 2, 2025	LTO
15839	Gao, Zhanwei (Frank)	November 2, 2025	Confession
15840	Li, Yajun (April)	November 2, 2025	Confession
15841	Melvin, Casey	November 2, 2025	Reaffirmation
15842	Melvin, Ziwei	November 2, 2025	Confession
15843	Whitmore, William	November 2, 2025	LTO
15844	Whitmore, Kristen	November 2, 2025	LTO
15845	Brina, Dorser	November 2, 2025	Reaffirmation
15846	Koizumi, Jerry	November 2, 2025	Reaffirmation

TOTAL =11

Report of Baptisms: August 2025 through July 2026

Baptism	Name	Parents	Birthday
9/7/2025	Mark, Stallon Zion	Poll, Fawn Lily Mark, Vincent Stallon	11/17/2024
9/7/2025	Eperiam, Sharonica Amsa May	Luzama, Meranda Eperiam, Benry	4/1/2017
9/14/2025	Paulus, Person Jr.	Paulus, Person Suldan, Wanda	12/11/2022
9/14/2025	Paulus, Samya-Lay	Paulus, Person Suldan, Wanda	3/19/2025
9/14/2025	Yarofailug, Jeremaiah	Yarofailug, Chris Yarofailug, Plomiter	3/20/2014
1/11/2026	Eikenberg, Cruz Deacon	Eikenberg, Joshua Douglas Eikenberg, Kelly Elizabeth	7/31/2023
1/25/2026	Liang, Frank	n/a	12/5/1998
4/19/2026	Yamagata, Luke Kazuyoshi	Yamagata, Hideyuki Yamagata, Emiko	11/7/2025
7/26/2026	Phillip, Titus Jenero Henry	Phillip, Tarthyn Jenero Musrasrik, Emiso Keana	1/21/2026

TOTAL = 9 (1 Adults, 8 Children)

Report of Deaths: August 2025 through July 2026

Member #	Name	DoD	Age
8353	Awaya, Theodore "Ted"	June 5, 2025	84 years old
15389	Randall, Maxine	September 29, 2025	90 years old
10793	Allen, Kay L.	October 25, 2025	80 years old
14525	Terumoto, Beatrice "Bea"	November 25, 2025	99 years old
10409	Wiemer, Robert	December 14, 2025	94 years old
1074	Nagel, Nicholas "Nick"	January 18, 2026	83 years old
14959	Fox, Linda Joan	January 18, 2026	—
15268	Kellogg, Carol	January 28, 2026	82 years old
15215	Young, Gale	June 1, 2026	77 years old
14519	Martinez, Pia Rene	June 3, 2026	79 years old
15241	Shaw, Yvonne	June 30, 2026	85 years old
*	Hueu, James*	July 3, 2026	82 years old

TOTAL = 12

* spouse of a member

Total “local” Weddings between August 2025 and July 2026

12



NOTES

Sunday Worship Services

7:00 AM – Atherton Memorial Chapel – Traditional
8:45 AM – Sanctuary – Gift of Music
9:00 AM – Sanctuary – Traditional (livestreamed to YouTube)
10:00 AM – Windward - Traditional
11:00 AM – Parish Hall - Contemporary
11:00 AM – Atherton Memorial Chapel - Pohnpeian Service
(except the first Sunday of the month)



Central Union Church - Celebrating transforming lives since 1887!

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

Central Union Church, organized in 1887, traces its roots to the Seamen’s Bethel, founded in 1833.
The Bethel began the earliest regular church services in English in the Hawaiian Kingdom.

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8/2026 • 200