

Volume 50 NO. 9/10 THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH - HONOLULU, HAWAII SEPT/OCT 2025 FREE

Gospel message

DRESS IT AND KEEP IT

By Associate Pastor Seth M. Asano, Sr.





"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1), setting the stage for the completion of the entire creation narrative. At His discretion (Jeremiah 10:12) with divine approval, "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). Deliberately and purposely placed in

Eden's Garden, Adam was tasked to "dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15), because "there was not a man to till the ground" (Genesis 2:5). Entrusted with the creation, Adam and Eve were simply commanded to sustain the existence and life through obedience. The physical environment was perfect! The relationship between God and man was perfect! What more could God have done to His Garden that God has not done in it (Isaiah 5:4)? Still, worldly lusts and pride, along with persuasive influencers continue to fuel man's sinful desires, drowning out God's "still small voice" (I Kings 19:12) and justifying a "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4) lifestyle. Despite man's choice to be disobedient, God graciously revealed His plan for man to be reconciled back to Him and asks, "Where art thou?" (Genesis 3:9, II Corinthians 5:18-19, Hebrews 2:17).

At the time of Jesus' preaching (John 1:14), an esteemed Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the ruling Jewish council (Sanhedrin) was intrigued and overwhelmed with conviction by Jesus but cautious about showing his support publicly as many did not share the same favorable view. However, Nicodemus intervened on Jesus' behalf when he witnessed the misuse of authority (John 7:50-53) as well as interceded for the body of Jesus and assisted in the burial of Jesus' body (John 19:38-42), an act of reverence that demonstrated his growing courage and devotion to the truth he had come to

embrace and believe. It was to this same Nicodemus that the plan of salvation was revealed when Jesus answered and said unto him, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5), establishing the necessity to be baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost as essential for entry into God's heavenly abode. The Apostle Peter also spoke to a contrite assembly through the power of the Holy Spirit, confirming that which was revealed to Nicodemus and said "...Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). There is only one way to heaven and that is through Jesus for "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Fully appreciating God's deliberate acts to save mankind, it is extremely imperative to labor on and remain steadfast in the teachings and sustain the truths we have received (II Timothy 3:14). We have been equipped with the whole armour of God and the Sword of the Spirit, i.e., The Word of God (Ephesians 6:11-17) wherewith believers are unified in faith and are able to boldly resist temptations and ungodly influences that promote practices and customs contradicting Godly principals (Jeremiah 10:2, Hebrews 12:1-4). Therefore being made in His image our lives should reflect God's divine nature (Galatians 5:22-23), being nurtured in God's Word and fruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (II Peter 1:4-8) without compromise! Thusly we are entrusted with this great responsibility as being faithful stewards of God's Word (I Corinthians 4:1-2) as we humbly and joyously labor in the Spirit to have Godly influence over what He has created (Matthew 9:37-38, I Corinthians 15:58, I Peter 5:3) recognizing that Eden is the Garden of God (Ezekiel 28:13)!

Editorial

TAKE A STAND

By Head Pastor William M. Han, Jr.





In our country, there has been a greater awakening of individuals or a group of people taking a stand on one issue or another. Issues regarding race, gender, abortion, and our Nation's leaders, stands at the forefront of the many protests in our Country; a Country built upon Christian principals and whose foundation was and is the omnipotent Almighty God, Jesus

Christ.

Although as an American citizen one has the right to peaceful protests, one should keep in mind and give way to the teachings of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In answer to a scribe's question of which commandment Jesus considered the most important of all, Jesus said: "The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:29-31). If one professes to love God, then one should respect all persons regardless of race, color, creed, gender or standing in society. Why? Because, "... God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him" (Acts 10:34-35). The Apostle Paul, in his epistle to the believers in Rome wrote, "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:17-21).

As to gender, God created male and female. Any other variation of gender identification whether gay, bisexual or transsexual is against the nature of God. Many will claim that Jesus in His ministry on earth didn't say or address the issue of gender and take that to mean that as tacit approval and that the laws given in the Old Testament was done away with. It seems inconceivable that Jesus did not address many of the social issues of that time. After all, who gave the law? Jesus Christ, God Himself manifested in the flesh. What was at the forefront of the recorders of the gospel was, "... that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31). Paul, addressed the issue regarding the LGBT and unnatural and lustful sexual desires in his epistles quite explicitly (Romans 1:24-32; I Corinthians 6:9-10). Did Paul write of his own understanding or personal opinions? Absolutely not! Paul wrote, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (II Timothy 3:16). Paul concludes that those, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them" (Romans 1:32). The remedy for one living an alternative lifestyle is turn from one's wicked ways and turn to God in humble repentance.

There is no question that abortion (the termination of life already begun) is sinful. The sixth commandment is clear, "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13). The Word of God is clear that no one has the right to take an innocent life (Genesis 9:6). If one is contemplating an abortion, stop now! If one has already had an abortion, cry out to the Lord in humble repentance. You will find Him full of mercy, grace and forgiveness.

As to our nation's leaders, Paul records for our learning: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation" (Romans 13:1-2). "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty" (I Timothy 2:1-2).

All true believers must take a stand for truth and righteousness, the name of Jesus and the *Word of God*; take a stand against evil and wickedness, separating oneself from things of the world that one's light may shine in a dark, dreary world. Let us therefore take a stand and protest in prayer and supplication, "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (I Timothy 2:3-4). I pray, Lord, come quickly.



WEDDING

By Associate Pastor Melvin Honda

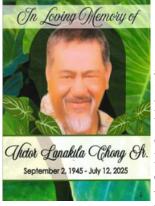


On August 16, 2025, a beautiful Saturday afternoon at the Apostolic Faith Church Garden, Sis. CRYSTAL LEINOHEA KEOHO and SHANE CABERTO were united in holy matrimony. Associate Pastor Melvin Honda officiated the ceremony. Sis. Crystal is the daughter of Bro. Frank Keoho and Sis. Jade

Kanemitsu. Shane is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Benedicto and Rosemarie Caberto. May the Lord Jesus Christ be your constant Guide, bestowing His endless love and bountiful blessings upon both of you.

IN MEMORIAM

By Associate Pastor/Trustee Edwin H. Sproat, Sr.



When Jesus Returns for His Own

A gathering of Saints, family, and friends attended the Funeral Service in loving memory to honor the blessed life of Bro. VICTOR LANAKILA CHONG, SR., age 79, held on Friday, August 22, 2025, conducted by Associate Pastor Edwin H. Sproat, Sr., at the Ballard Family Moanalua Mortuary, in

Kalihi, Hawaii. The family presented a beautiful video slide show which depicted many additional remembrances shared by family members, a wonderful picture of his journey through this earthly life, to the many Saints, loved ones, and friends who were in attendance.

Associate Pastor Edwin H. Sproat, Sr., opened the service with "The Lord's Prayer," which was followed by an anthem by members of The Apostolic Faith Church Choir who sang the familiar selection entitled, "Wonderful Peace," under the direction of Associate Pastor Timothy C. L. Han, Sr. A wonderful Eulogy was then presented by Bro. Guile Chong who touched upon the multiple talents and wonderful life experiences that Bro. Victor shared with his wife Aurelia, family, and friends who knew him and shared many happy times with him. The Spirit-filled

reading of God's Word by Associate Pastor Edwin H. Sproat, Sr., highlighted the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to the many souls in attendance, alerting them to regard the importance for the salvation of their souls, and sharing the many biblical promises given by Jesus Christ to every Child of God who dies in the Lord. He also noted that Bro. Victor Chong was merely asleep, and that the Lord Jesus Christ could awake His sleeping Saints at any moment. The Apostolic Faith Church Choir then rendered the Christian Hymn entitled, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," which was followed by the closing prayer and Benediction. Everyone was then invited to partake of a delicious luncheon, followed by the 2 p.m. burial service at the Green Haven Memorial Park Cemetery, in Kaneohe.

Bro. Victor was born on September 02, 1945, and passed away on July 12, 2025. He is survived by his loving wife, Sis. Aurelia (Chuckie) Chong, his children Sean Chong, Rae Chong, Victor Chong Jr., Kealoha Krummen, and multiple grandchildren. Bro. Victor was baptized in The Apostolic Faith Church and regularly attended services with his wife Aurelia (Chuckie) and the family. Bro. Victor was a big man, with a big heart, who dearly loved his family, relatives, and many friends. He was very hardworking, and humorous, and took great care of his family and many friends who admired him for his multiple talents and abilities. We send our love and prayers out to his loving family, and we look forward to seeing them all again in Church, as we await the soon coming return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Who will call up His dearly beloved Saints of God saying, "Come Up Hither."

CHILD BLESSED



This pretty little girl named, POETRY KAHA'AWINA'OKEOLAI'I KA'AWA, was born on December 6, 2019, and at that time of birth she was born at St. Rose Dominican Hospital, Siena Campus in Las Vegas, and weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and measured 19 1/2 inches in length. Her happy mom is Sis. Lyric Carter-Ka'awa. Her maternal

grandmother is Sis. Pikake Kaleimamahu and the late grandfather Hansen Kaʻawa. Her proud great grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. DonnaLou Carter, Sr. Precious Poetry was blessed on Sunday, September 28, 2025 by Head Pastor William M. Han, Jr. at the Mother Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Celebrating our

95th Kaimuki Branch Church Anniversary Service

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 7:00 p.m. 1361 Palolo Ave.





Come and Join us as we celebrate our

72nd Maui Branch Church Anniversary Service

Sunday, November 9, 2025 10:00 a.m. 1211 Front Street Lahaina, Maui



Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Monthly Update of Souls Saved

Four souls were baptized in Jesus' Name according to Acts 2:38, Acts 4:12 & John 3:5 from August 11 to October 12, 2025



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