



Ka 'Ōlelo 'O Ke Ola

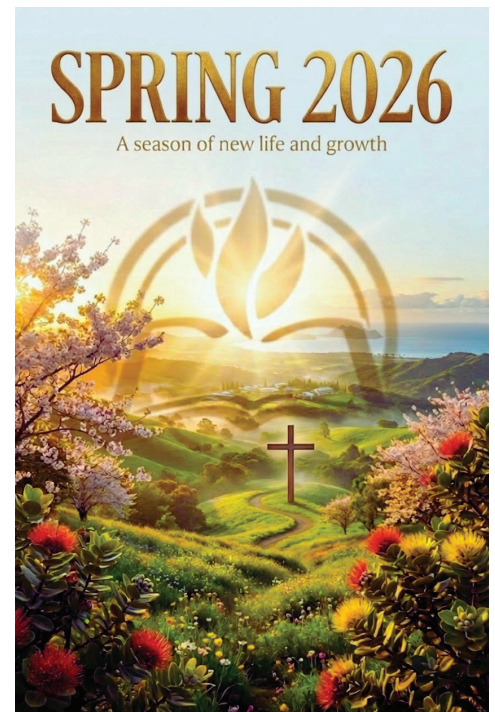
"THE WORD OF LIFE"

SPRING 2026, VOLUME 51 ISSUE 1

Bible Institute of Hawai'i • Founded in 1972 • 2345 Nu'uau Avenue • Honolulu, HI 96817 USA • Phone: (808) 595-4700 • Website: www.biblehawaii.org
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Friends, family members, former students, and ministry partners gather for a group photo during the celebration of Ada Lum's 100th birthday on February 28, 2026, at Kalihi Union Church in Honolulu. The joyful gathering reflected the remarkable reach of Ada's life and ministry across churches, student movements, and generations throughout Hawaii.



By Rodney Wong,
BIH Executive Director

How does one single woman from Kalihi end up with so many spiritual children scattered across the globe?

Even if you attended the recent Ada Lum 100-year Birthday Celebration, it would be difficult to fully comprehend the scale of her remarkable life. Much of her story was told through the lives of those she grew up with, served alongside, and ministered to. The testimony flowed from the podium and around the tables during the delicious lunch provided by Kalihi Union Church.

The gym was decorated wall-to-wall with flags representing the 115 na-

tions Ada visited, countries many of us didn't even know existed. These flags spanned both sides of the gym, meeting in the middle where they were tied to the basketball rims. Looking at those high hoops, I cracked a smile: while Ada could never reach those rims, the world she reached was hanging from them. Despite her small stature, her presence is anything but. She is likely one of a few people who can make a room full of PhDs and seasoned Bible teachers feel like they are the ones looking up.

Speaking of PhDs, I recently received an email from a PhD candidate at an East Coast University. While researching his dissertation, he had come across Ada's book, *Single & Human* (one day I'll tell a funny comment Ada made to me about that book over 10 years ago) He reached out to inquire further, seeking more primary data and a update on the lifelong



Ada Lum (seated right) greets guests alongside her siblings, Dick and Ginny Lum, during her 100th birthday celebration. Throughout the afternoon, friends, former students, and ministry partners shared stories reflecting the many decades Ada devoted to teaching the Scriptures and mentoring believers across Hawaii and beyond.

experiences of single women in local and global missions. He was essentially asking: *Was she satisfied with how life turned out? Was she successful?*

The answers to those questions are obvious to those who know her and have



Ada's face lights up when greeted by **Joanne Naai**, a very familiar face from their many years of shared ministry at the Bible Institute of Hawaii.

worked with her, but in her book and in conversation, she is quite candid about this personal journey. She touches on the reality of missionary travels through Lebanon, Vietnam, and the Philippines, implying that the nomadic, often high-risk nature of her work was a race God set before her. In being single, she found the most effective way for her calling to run that race. Her devotion to the Word and global mission was so consuming and joyful that she never felt she was “missing” a thing. She often remarked that her life was “crowded with people,” meaning she was never lonely because she was always invested in others—especially the next generation.

Looking around the gym that day, it was clear what she meant.

A Celebration Planned and Executed in Partnership

The event was a collaborative effort, planned and executed through a partnership of the three ministries that have shaped Ada's life: **Kalihi Union Church (KUC)**, **InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF)**, and **Bible Institute of Hawaii (BIH)**.

The celebration truly began with the entry of Ada and her siblings, who were greeted



Barbara Ching, a longtime KUC member and former BIH faculty for the *Experiencing God* classes, shared reflections on Ada's deep spiritual impact. Her tribute honored their long shared teaching history and friendship.

with a moving ‘oli (Hawaiian chant) offered by **Moani Nanod-Sitch**, IVCF Hawaii Area Director. **Rev. Dr. Jonathan Steeper** warmly welcomed guests to KUC with an invocation, and **Brenda Wong**, now in her 48th year with InterVarsity, served as Master of Ceremonies.

While not a comprehensive breakdown of the afternoon, the program included worship, video tributes, and a litany of speakers—many of whom jokingly claimed to be “Ada's favorite student.” Official birthday commemorations were presented from the office of Governor **Josh Green** and US Representative **Jill Tokuda**. State Senator **Glenn Wakai** presented a certificate signed by his fellow Senators, and Representative **Ikaika Hussey** presented signatures from all Hawaii State Representatives in person.

The Spark Behind BIH

As **Rev. Dr. Brad Smith**, who worked with Ada as BIH faculty and a former Board member, noted in his written birthday wish, Ada was “The Spark” that gave BIH its staying power. Since 1972, the ministry has focused on equipping Christians to understand Scripture more deeply. Former BIH Board President **John Enomoto** reflected on Ada's quiet but unmistakable influence in the early years and her extensive network reach in Japan.

Joanne Naai, former BIH administrator and current volunteer, provided a window into Ada's meticulous preparation. She shared that Ada would sometimes lie on the floor of her office, practicing her classes out loud. She would visualize her students, weighing how they might or might not understand a point, and then revise her lesson further. This constant refinement ensured every lesson was as fresh and life-giving.

Seeds Planted and Lives Changed

Long before BIH, Ada was investing in young lives through the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) and IVCF. **Gloria Young**, a BIH volunteer, recalled meeting Ada at age 14: “Ada made the Word of God very practical while helping me challenge my faith.”

Over 180 members of her spiritual

‘ohana wrote blessings in cards and for the Ada 100-year picture memory book produced by **Dick Lum**, **Bob Okuda**, **KUC**, and the planning committee. (This book, along with the video tributes shown at the event, is available for free download on our website.) **Bob Okuda** spoke to honor her, stating, “Ada introduced me to Christ 70 years ago,” and **Calvert Chun** noted in the book, “I had lunch with Ada in 1993, and she led me to Christ.”

The Keynote and Charge

The program's capstone was a keynote and charge from **Rev. Dr. Randy Furushima**, BIH faculty and former Executive Director, who reminded guests of the stewardship of



John Enomoto honors Ada's remarkable reach, expressing amazement at her extensive ministry and networking across Japan.



Ada waves and smiles at guests as she is escorted throughout the gym during the ‘oli by Kalihi Union Church Senior Pastor Jonathan Steeper.



Representative Ikaika Hussey presents Ada with a Birthday Commemoration signed by every member of the Hawaii House of Representatives.



Reflecting on Ada's impact on his life in his early years, **Dr. Rev. Randy Furushima** delivered the keynote—bringing a powerful charge to the guests to carry forward her legacy with the same faith and faithfulness that marked her life.

Ada's legacy: "...the next generation does not primarily need louder voices; it needs faithful ones. It needs men and women who will open the text carefully, wrestle with it honestly, and live it visibly. This is how you honor a teacher like Ada. You do not merely thank her—you continue her work."

Following his remarks, ministry leaders gathered for a laying on of hands, praying for Ada's continued strength. Again and again, those sending blessings reached for **Matthew 25:23**: "Well done, good and faithful servant." As **Lynn Yasutomi** wrote: "Well done, good and faithful servant. (You're not done yet!)"

The Ada Lum Legacy: Equipping the Next Generation

For over seventy years, Ada Lum has modeled a life "crowded with people" and a heart devoted to the precise, joyful study of God's Word. Established in 1995, the **Ada Lum Fund** exists to ensure this spark never goes out. By contributing, you aren't just honoring a century of faithfulness; you are investing in future biblical conferences, training workshops, and academic events that will bear her name. Together, we can extend the faithful stewardship and teaching

of God's Word that Ada began, equipping the next generation to run their race with her nurturing spirit and meticulous care, handling the Word of Truth. Let us reach even further into the next 100 years!

Scan the QR code for the Ada Lum Fund.



MARRIAGE CONFERENCE with Drs. Paul & Virginia Friesen

We are thrilled to welcome back Drs. Paul and Virginia Friesen to Hawaii for the "One Thing" Marriage Conference! Hosted by the Waterhouse Lecture Series, this special event will take place on **Friday, February 12, 2027 (starting at 6:00 PM)** and **Saturday, February 13, 2027 (starting at 1:30 PM)** at the **Prince Waikiki, 100 Holomoana Street, Honolulu**. Early bird registration is just **\$85 per person** through **December 16, 2026**. Please register directly through the Waterhouse website **QR code**. **Note:** BIH is planning additional sessions with the Friesens around these dates, so stay tuned for details!



 **ONE DAY SEMINAR**

SEM-TH300
God, the Church, and Artificial Intelligence: What Every Christian Should Know
Pastor Earl Morihara

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly reshaping how people learn, work, and communicate, raising important questions for the church. In this four-hour practical seminar, participants will explore how AI tools can assist with research, communication, administration, and ministry—while recognizing that technology must never replace the human calling of spiritual leadership.

Participants will also examine four key theological dangers of over-relying on AI, especially in teaching Scripture and guiding spiritual formation. Through guided demonstrations and hands-on exercises, attendees will experiment with AI in both helpful and problematic ways to better understand its strengths, limitations, and ethical implications for Christian ministry.

This seminar is open to Christian leaders, students, and anyone interested in how artificial intelligence is shaping our world and how Christians can respond wisely and faithfully. *Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop, tablet, or smartphone to access AI tools during the hands-on portions of the seminar.*

Administrative Fee: \$15
Bring-a-Friend Free
June 13, 2026 (One-day)
Saturday, 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
In person only @ Cane St. Café
1314 Cane Street, Wahiawa

 *CBS/CMM: Skills*

 **SPRING 2026**


Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) has approved Bible Institute of Hawai'i to offer course work leading to Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for ACSI Certification in the area of biblical studies.



NEW!
Music Ministry Leadership Certificate (MMLC)

The **Music Ministry Leadership Certificate** at Bible Institute of Hawaii equips pastors, worship leaders, and musicians to deepen their biblical theology of music, develop practical musical skills, and strengthen leadership in worship ministry. The curriculum includes **Music Ministry Essentials, Music Theory Essentials and Advanced, Congregational Praise Songwriting, Music Ministry Leadership, and a hands-on Music Ministry Practicum**, where students apply their skills by performing with a full band and creating an original song.

Designed for pastors, worship leaders, musicians, and anyone seeking to serve in music ministry, this certificate strengthens local churches through biblically grounded, musically excellent worship.

For more information, contact program director, **Cheyne Rippey** at Rippey.ch@gmail.com.



Waiālae Baptist Church — BIH *Apologetics: The Defense of the Faith* with **Dr. Pat Zukeran**, equipping believers to “give a reason for the hope within” (1 Peter 3:15).



C4 Christ Centered Community Church hosts visiting faculty member from New York, **Dr. Elaine Eng**, leading BIH *Spiritual and Mental Health Counseling for Anxiety*—equipping with practical tools and biblical support for overcoming anxiety.



JUST SHOW UP

ALL INVITED!
PUBLIC READING OF SCRIPTURE
FREE ON ZOOM

JOIN US weekly for the Public Reading of Scripture! No registration required.

Facilitator: Pastor Rodney Wong

April 14 - June 9, 2026 (8 weeks)

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

JSU Zoom Link Meeting ID: 867 0653 3981.

Passcode: bihjsu21



Big News on the Horizon for BIH!

Exciting things are *in motion* at Bible Institute of Hawaii! A new chapter could be unfolding, and we can't wait to share more soon. Keep a close eye on our email updates, website, and upcoming newsletters for the official announcement. You won't want to miss what's coming next!



SPRING QUARTER 2026 SCHEDULE OF COURSES

APRIL 14 – JUNE 18, 2026
(6 – 8 WEEKS)

Register online at www.biblehawaii.org.

For mail-in registrations, it must be postmarked by April 8, 2026

Registration fee: \$15 – \$40.

Sunday

NT005

ACTS: The Unfinished Story 《使徒行传：未完成的故事》

Brooke Wei 講師 魏姊妹

This course is a seven-session journey into one of the most powerful books in the Bible. Participants will explore the book of Acts and discover how a small group of ordinary people—empowered by the Spirit of God—transformed the world.

Through the story of the early church, this course invites participants to rediscover the courage, faith, and mission of the first believers. More than a Bible study, it is an invitation to see how the story of Acts continues today—and how each believer may take part in the next chapter of God's work.

The course is designed for believers who desire to grow in their understanding of the early church and the ongoing mission of God. *The class will be conducted in Mandarin.*

課程概述 — 這是一門七課的屬靈旅程課程，帶領學員深入學習《使徒行傳》。從耶路撒冷開始，一小群普通人因著聖靈的能力，將福音帶到世界各地，並改變了歷史的進程。

在這門課程中，學員將重新認識初代教會的信仰、勇氣與使命，看見福音如何真實地改變生命。這不僅是一門聖經課程，更是一個邀請——邀請你進入神仍然在繼續書寫的故事。

故事還沒有結束，而下一章，可能正從你的生命開始。

本課程將以普通話授課。

Administrative Fee: \$40

Bring-a-Friend Free

期間 April 19 – May 24, 2026

(7 weeks, except 5/10)

日時 Sundays, 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM HT

形式 Hybrid: Zoom Online & In person
(Location TBA)

 CBS/CMM: NT-Acts

Tuesday

NT010

The Epistle to the Ephesians: Theology, Unity, and the Lordship of Christ

エペソ人への手紙を読む — キリストにある救いと教会の一致 —

Rev. Yoshitaka Fujinami 講師 藤浪義孝牧師

This course introduces Paul's letter to the Ephesians, focusing on the theology of salvation, the unity of the church, and the lordship of Christ. Participants will explore key passages and discover the spiritual blessings believers have in Christ and the calling of the church as God's people.

The course is designed for lay believers and ministry leaders who desire a deeper understanding of Scripture and the life of the church today. *The class will be conducted in Japanese.*

講座説明 — 講座では、新約聖書「エペソ人への手紙」を日本語で丁寧に読みながら学びます。神がキリストにあつて与えてくださった救いの恵み、教会の一致、そしてキリストの主権について聖書から理解を深めます。

エペソ書の重要な箇所を共に読み、信仰者としてどのように歩むのか、また教会とはどのような存在なのかを考えます。

このクラスは、日本語で聖書を学びたいクリスチャンのための聖書講座です。

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household

期間 April 14 – June 2, 2026 (8 weeks)

日時 Tuesdays, 12 Noon – 1:00 PM HT

形式 Zoom Online

 CBS/CMM: NT-Letters

REL202

Comparative Religion Studies Part 2 (in Urdu, Hindi, and English)

Pastor Chris Nayyir

This course introduces the study of major world religions and compares their beliefs and practices with the teachings

of Christianity. Participants will examine the historical origins, key texts, and core beliefs of Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Buddhism, while considering how each tradition addresses questions of God, salvation, and the meaning of life. Through this exploration, students will gain a deeper understanding of the distinct message of the Christian gospel and develop greater confidence in engaging thoughtfully with people of other faiths.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household
April 14 – May 19, 2026 (6 weeks)

Tuesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Zoom Online

 CBS/CMM: Theology

JUST SHOW UP (JSU): Public Reading of Scripture

Pastor Rodney Wong

Join us weekly for the Public Reading of Scripture! Following the ancient practice of the church (1 Timothy 4:13), participants simply gather online to listen to the dramatized reading of God's Word together. No preparation or prior study is required—just come and hear the Scriptures read aloud in community.

No Administrative Fee: Free —

No registration required

April 14 – June 9, 2026 (8 weeks)

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM HT

JSU Zoom Link

Meeting ID: 867 0653 3981

Passcode: bihsu21

**SPRING
2026**

Thursday

OT003

Encounter Jesus in Leviticus

Dr. Rick Stinton

When the risen Lord Jesus met with two disciples on the road to Emmaus, he explained to them what was said about himself in Leviticus. Ever wonder what he told them? Join us as we encounter Jesus in Leviticus. Like those first disciples, our hearts will burn within us.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household
April 16 - May 21, 2026 (6 weeks)
Thursdays, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM
Zoom Online

 CBS/CMM: OT - Historical

NT019

The Beauty of Christ in Hebrews
Pastor Todd Capen

Participants will take a long gaze at the grandeur of Christ on display in the book of Hebrews. Each class session will focus on key Scripture from Hebrews that highlight Christ and explore implications of an exalted Christology for the Christian Life.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household
April 30 - June 18, 2026 (8 weeks)
Thursdays, 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM
Zoom Online

 CBS/CMM: NT-General Letters

NT112

**Foundation of our Faith:
Colossians and Philippians**
Pastor Ken Humphries

The Books of Colossians and Philippians reveal the absolute supremacy of Jesus

Christ—the image of the invisible God and our indestructible source of joy. This study explores how being “rooted and built up in Him” (Colossians 2:7) gives us the strength to “press on toward the goal” (Philippians 3:14) regardless of our circumstances. Join us for eight weeks as we discover our complete identity in Christ and learn to walk in the peace that passes all understanding.

Administrative Fee: \$35
Bring-a-Friend Free
April 16 - June 4, 2026 (8 weeks)
Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

**In person only @ Central Oahu
Christian Church**
54 Westervelt St, Wahiawa

 CBS/CMM: NT-General Letters

Friday

CE119

Music Ministry Essentials
Mr. Cheyne Rippey

There is no prerequisite for this course, and there are no musical skill-level requirements. Please register even if you are brand new to music or a seasoned performer. This course is the first of two

skills-focused courses in this five-course Music Ministry series (see “New Music Ministry Curriculum” elsewhere in this newsletter).

Students will be introduced to essential music theory and apply it in songwriting tasks throughout the course. Topics include song structures, musical dynamics, harmonies, melodies, scales and why they matter, songwriting, the relationship between music and its message, the difference between congregational music and personal music, and how to create a captivating yet biblical time of praise.

By the end of the course, students will understand music, its place in worship, and be able to participate in their local music ministry. Book: *The Art of Worship: A Musician’s Guide to Leading Modern Worship* by Greg Scheer.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household
April 17 - June 5, 2026 (8 weeks)
Fridays, 12 Noon - 1:00 PM HT
Zoom Online

 CBS/CMM: Skills or Music Ministry Leadership Certificate (MMLC)

 This symbol denotes classes that are applicable towards the Certificate in Biblical Studies and Mentored Ministries program

Course Registration Form Please print legibly

See Schedule of Courses for more details

First time student Update/change information
Rev. / Pastor / Mr. / Mrs. / Miss / Ms. / Dr. (Circle One)

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Best way to reach me is by: (please write in phone number &/or e-mail address)

Phone: home/cell/work _____

E-Mail _____

Address _____

Church Affiliation (if any) _____

Please check all applicable boxes below










Yes, I’m interested in the Certificate in Biblical Studies Program

Requesting a Certificate of Completion for:

ACSI Certification

Continuing Education / other: _____

Course No.	Course Name	Admin Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> NT005	ACTS: The Unfinished Story 	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> NT010	The Epistle to the Ephesians 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> REL202	Comparative Religion St. Part 2 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> OT003	Encounter Jesus in Leviticus 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> NT019	The Beauty of Christ in Hebrews 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> NT112	Colossians and Philippians 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> CE119	Music Ministry Essentials 	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-TH300	God, the Church, & Artificial Intelligence	\$15

Total Administrative Fee _____

Optional gift to BIH _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Directions: Fill out your name and phone no. and/or email address. One form per person unless you are family and have the same contact info.

First time student: Fill out your mailing address (and church affiliation). Return completed form and administrative fee to BIH. **Checks payable to BIH.** For more info on How to Register and Schedule of Courses OR to register online, go to www.biblehawaii.org

Mail-in Registration for classes postmarked by April 8, 2026



BIH
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