



Ka 'Ōlelo 'O Ke Ola

"THE WORD OF LIFE"

SUMMER 2026, VOLUME 51 ISSUE 2

Bible Institute of Hawaii • Founded in 1972 • 829 Pensacola Street Rm 204 • Honolulu, HI 96814 • Phone: (808) 595-4700 • Website: www.biblehawaii.org
Executive Director: Rodney Wong • Board of Directors: Ken Humphries, President • Cynthia W. Lai, Vice President • Kendal Fong, Secretary
Greig Porter, Treasurer • Curtis Fong • Vernelle Oku • Cheyne Rippey • Bookkeeper: Francis Miyazawa



A Century of Legacy, and a Growing Global Vision



By Rodney Wong,
BIH Executive Director

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." — Acts 1:8

Honoring a Life Well-Lived: Miss Ada Lum

I hold two things at once in tension, deep gratitude for what God has done through this ministry, and genuine excitement for what lies ahead. This summer quarter is a convergence of honoring a life well-lived, casting vision for a global future, and quite literally packing boxes.

On May 15th, our beloved faculty member Emerita, **Miss Ada Lum**, peacefully went home to be with the Lord. She made it to 100 years old, a full century of life poured out for Christ across 115 countries. We miss her deeply. And we are celebrating her fully.

Those who were at her 100th birthday celebration earlier this year will remember that a lively argument broke out in the gym. The question? Who is Ada's favorite student? Each speaker boldly stated their claim. A tray of noodles may have gone flying (*well, I may have taken some liberties there*). But the verdict was no contest: *It was you. No, it was me. Actually, it was definitely me!*

That was the special gift of Ada Lum. She made every single student feel like "the one" she believed in most. At one hundred years old, she still had her students reenacting—and nearly causing—a biblical scene.

Please join us at her **Celebration of Life service** on **Saturday, August 1st**, at the **Kalihi Union Church Sanctuary**. **Visitation begins at 10:00 AM**, the service at 11:00 AM, with a reception to follow.

The Ada Lum Fund

At our upcoming June Board of Directors meeting, we will be voting to rename and adopt the 2012 Ada Lum Fund as our **Ada Lum Legacy Fund**. This fund will ensure her name and legacy continues through a range of teaching ministries — courses, teachers, and faculty who carry



Historic Makiki Christian Church - A New Home for BIH!

forward what Miss Ada embodied: a passion for inductive Bible study and Spirit-led discipleship. Future conferences and classes that highlight her life and legacy will bear her name in their titles.

Expanding Our Global Reach

Acts 1:8 has always felt like a ministry blueprint: **Jerusalem first, then outward**. What has been quietly unfolding at BIH is exactly that kind of expanding reach, and I want you to see the full picture.

It started closer to home. Over time, we established classes reaching students out of **New York and Los Angeles**, each led by instructors with Hawaii roots or Hawaii ties to our mission. More recently, we added an **online music class out of California** and have continued building out our language course offerings, including **Mandarin Chinese, Japanese**, and courses serving the lingua franca communities of **Pakistan, Thailand, and Ethiopia**, weaving them into this growing network with additional classes now anchored out of California and New York as well. Each step has widened the circle. **What ties it all together is something simple: Hawaii people, carrying the Word outward.**

A New International Bible Training Initiative

A new opportunity has emerged through relationships built by our personnel on the ground. BIH board member **Greig Porter**, who has experience providing online training in Southeast Asia and Japan, and **Dave Van Wagenen**, who spent 30 years in East Africa and taught at a theological college in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, brought this project to our attention. Local churches and a training institute requested organizational and teaching support, and BIH accepted.

Targeting a launch in the Fall Quarter of 2026, BIH's new **International Bible Training Initiative** will provide Bible training via Zoom to students in Ethiopia and Southeast Asia. Courses will be conducted with translation support in the students' local languages. Current BIH students in Hawaii will attend the exact same virtual classrooms as the international students, enabling shared cross-cultural learning.

The need is urgent. In Ethiopia, rapid church growth has left most congregations led by pastors with little to no formal biblical training. Sound teaching is required to help these communities navigate false doctrine, cultural syncretism, and rapid growth.

(See the accompanying article below for expanded details on this project.)

A Fond Farewell to Community Church of Honolulu

After over 20 years at the **Community Church of Honolulu**, our office is on the move. I want to say a genuine, heartfelt mahalo to CCH for housing us all these years and for hosting our **Walk in the Word** events. They have been gracious hosts for our office over two decades, and we carry that partnership with gratitude.

Welcome Home: Makiki Christian Church

Our new home is **Makiki Christian Church** on Pensacola Street. Their congregation put it to a vote — and welcomed us with overwhelming support. Since then, their Joint Ministry Council and Property Committee have been working behind the scenes to get our new space ready: updating the electrical

and even gifting us a brand-new AC unit. We felt the “cool breeze” of aloha before we even moved in.

Effective July 1st, our physical office and mailing address will be:

**Bible Institute of Hawaii
c/o Makiki Christian Church
829 Pensacola Street, Room 204
Honolulu, HI 96814**

Our phone number stays the same. An important note for when you visit: Makiki Christian Church operates a pre-school program throughout the week, directly below our office, so there are safety protocols on campus. **Please use the sanctuary and tower side staircase entrance and call the office before stopping by.**

122 Years of Rich History

Moving to Makiki means stepping into 122 years of rich history, and I have been genuinely moved learning the story of this place. It began when **Rev. Takie Okumura** started preaching in the shade of trees and servants' quarters around Honolulu, **going to people, sitting with them, opening the Word wherever they were.** Years later, in the depths of the Great Depression, Rev. Okumura and his congregation did something that defied conventional wisdom: they purchased a new lot on Pensacola Street and committed to build. The timing looked impossible. They moved forward anyway.

Okumura envisioned a building modeled after Kochi Castle from his hometown in Shikoku, Japan. The design raised eyebrows, questions about whether the church would stay ethnically Japanese. But Okumura had a broader vision. He named it **Makiki Christian Church**, and those early bulletins carried a declaration: **“This house shall be of all nations, a house of prayer.”**

He founded a hospital, started Hawaii's first Japanese-American baseball team, and opened an orphanage that took in children who had no one else, all expressions of the same heart that drove his ministry. He spent years personally caring for “picture brides” who arrived from Japan only to be rejected, finding them safe homes and protecting their

dignity. When World War II brought a wave of anti-Japanese sentiment, **the deep trust Okumura and the church had built in the community became a shield.** The church advocated for the protection of Japanese Americans in Makiki, one of the main areas where Japanese migrants had settled. From the outside, the building looked like a samurai fortress. On the inside, it was always a place of sanctuary. **That is the history and mission to which we will now be joined!** *Historical information adapted from the Makiki Christian Church Archives.*

Logos Bookstore: Right Downstairs

One more thing worth celebrating: the iconic **Logos Bookstore** is on the ground floor, out front along the Rycroft St. parking lot, just off Pensacola St. Owner Carl Ashizawa has generously extended a standing offer, **every BIH student who registers for a class will receive 10% off all purchases at Logos** for that quarter. Just show your course registration confirmation. Biblical scholarship and leisure reading, steps from our front door, during store hours (Mon–Sat, 9:30 AM–6:00 PM).

BIH Is Back Online

After years of absence from the social media scene, **BIH is back.** Find us on Facebook and Instagram, where we will be sharing ministry updates, move-in moments, and real-time glimpses into our classrooms. **Our goal is not just to stay connected with those already in our community, but to expand our reach far beyond Hawaii, to the uttermost parts of the earth, and across every generation.**

Walking Forward Together

As I look to our horizon, I see something coming into view: the global discipleship legacy of Miss Ada, the courageous community roots of Makiki Christian Church, and the forward momentum of what God is calling BIH to next **from Honolulu to the mainland, to Ethiopia and Thailand, and beyond.** Thank you for praying with us and walking this road alongside us.

Let Us Enjoy the Summer Sun Together!





BIBLE INSTITUTE OF HAWAII
INTERNATIONAL BIBLE TRAINING INITIATIVE

CONNECTING MINISTRIES ACROSS THE GLOBE
 LAUNCHING FALL 2026



BIH's International Bible Training Initiative: Meeting a Critical Global Need

Bible Institute of Hawaii is developing a new international Bible teaching initiative to extend our ministry beyond Hawaii. **Greig Porter** and **Dave Van Wagenen** are leading this outreach effort.

Dave spent 30 years in East Africa doing community development and teaching at a theological college in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Greig's international training experience includes partnering directly with Dave Van Wagenen to provide online Bible instruction to students in Thailand and Laos, establishing a foundation of shared ministry experience between them.

The initial groundwork is complete, and the target start date is the **Fall Quarter of 2026**. We are preparing to provide online Bible training via Zoom for students in Ethiopia and Southeast Asia. Courses will be taught in the students' local languages, utilizing translators where needed.

Current BIH students in Hawaii may have opportunities to sit in some of those virtual classrooms as these international students, allowing for cross-cultural ministry, shared learning, and global connection.

Why This Training is Vital

The need for this training is urgent. In Ethiopia, rapid church growth means many congregations are led by pastors with little to no formal biblical education. This leaves believers vulnerable to false teachings, the Prosperity Gospel, and cultural syncretism. Theological training is vital to help local leaders navigate complex ethnic and religious dynamics, distinguish core biblical truths, and equip the body of Christ for leadership.

This project represents an additional step for BIH to make biblical training accessible across national boundaries. Please pray for wisdom, smooth technology setups, and fruitful partnerships as we approach the Fall launch. More details will be shared in future newsletters as plans continue to take shape.



Summer 2026 New Faculty



Spencer Tang

holds a B.A. in Economics from UCLA (1985) and an M.A. in New Testament Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary (1995). He currently serves as the lead pastor of HOME Honolulu, a church community he pioneered in 2017.

With 43 years of seasoned experience bridging formal and marketplace ministry, Spencer's pastoral background includes serving as an associate pastor at Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Santa Monica, California, and playing a foundational role in planting and pastoring Hope Chapel Manoa on Oahu. He has also provided leadership over small group oversight and marriage ministries at Metro Christian Fellowship in Kansas City and Bethel Church in Redding, California. Parallel to his ministry, Spencer spent years in the IT industry, owned and operated a successful bakery and restaurant enterprise employing over 95 people, and continues to run a small business he founded in 2002. While his leadership covers decades, his most significant spiritual transformation occurred over the last 15 years through the revelation of the Father's love with Fatherheart Ministries.

Spencer has been married to his wife, Wendy, for 38 years. They have a large, close-knit family consisting of six daughters, one hānai son and his wife, four sons-in-law, and 11 grandchildren. In his personal time, Spencer and Wendy love hitting the open road for motorcycle rides from Hawaii Kai to Waimanalo.



ONE DAY SEMINARS

SEM-OT001

Heart on Fire - Encounter Jesus in Genesis (in Mandarin)

Ms. Brooke Wei

When the risen Lord Jesus walked with two disciples on the road to Emmaus, He began with Genesis and explained to them all the Scriptures concerning Himself. We invite you to embark on a journey together—to encounter Jesus in Genesis. This is not only a course, but also a spiritual encounter. As the Scriptures are opened and Christ is revealed, our hearts will also burn within us. Come, let us see in Genesis the Lord who came for us from the very beginning.

Administrative Fee: \$20 per household

Aug 22 and September 5, 2026 (2-days)

Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Zoom Online Only

 CBS/CMM: Flex Credit Hours



SUMMER 2026

TBA

Dr. Patrick Zukeran will be teaching an online course on Tuesdays or a seminar on Saturdays. Dates, times, and specific course details will be announced as soon as they are finalized. Please monitor your email and check our social media channels for updates and registration details.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Ada Lum

Your life was a gift to all of us. We remember you and your eternal legacy with love.

Whoever finds wisdom finds life and receives favor from the Lord.
Proverbs 4:13

Let Us Honor & Celebrate Her Life

10:00 AM VISITATION
11:00 AM CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

KALIHI UNION CHURCH
AUGUST 1, 2026



Organized in 1899 by Reverend Takie Okumura (center), the Excelsior baseball team saw a need for community, mentorship, and purpose – providing a vital outlet for young plantation workers and students in Hawaii through the power of sports. (Photo courtesy of MCC Archives / File: Makiki-Christian-Church-history-team-Excelsior062418 (1).jpg)



MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION TO FUNDRAISE EVEN FASTER!

give aloha

Make a donation to our organization at any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms checkout, and Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will make a donation to our organization, too!


Organization Bible Institute of Hawaii

Our Organization Code is 78257

HOW TO HELP:

- 1) Show your Maika'i Card and make a donation to our organization (up to \$249 per person) at any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms checkout from September 2026
- 2) Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match all donations up to a total of at least \$300,000 for all organizations combined.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!





JUST SHOW UP

PUBLIC READING OF SCRIPTURE FREE ON ZOOM

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


Facilitator: Pastor Rodney Wong


July 14 - September 1, 2026 (8 weeks)

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

JSU Zoom Link Meeting ID: 867 0653 3981.


Passcode: bihsu21

 **Look for us on Facebook and Instagram,**

 Bible Institute of Hawaii

You can find and follow our brand-new pages here:

Facebook:



Instagram:

Follow us **@BibleInstitutehi**



SUMMER QUARTER 2026 SCHEDULE OF COURSES

JULY 8 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
(4 – 8 WEEKS)

Register online at www.biblehawaii.org.

For mail-in registrations, it must be postmarked by July 1, 2026

Registration fee: \$15 – \$40.

Monday

CE119

Music Theory Essentials

Mr. Cheyne Rippey

This course has no musical skill-level requirements and is applicable for seasoned performers as well as beginners. This course is the second of five courses for Music Ministry Leadership Certificate and focuses on developing your musical and songwriting skills.

Students will be introduced to essential music theory and apply it to Christian songwriting lyrically and musically.

Topics include song structures, 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 essential music theory, 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

July 13 – August 31, 2026 (8 weeks)

Mondays, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM HT

Google Meets Online Only (from CA)

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

OT023

Exposition of Isaiah

Dr. James Kwong

This class will focus on the exposition of the book of Isaiah. We will focus on underlying themes of trusting God in the light of Israel's impending destruction (then) and his faithfulness to his people today (now). Notes will be provided. Expect weekly class lectures and discussion.

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

Administrative Fee: \$40

Bring-a-Friend Free

July 13 – August 31, 2026 (8 weeks)

Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Hybrid: Zoom Online & Kaimuki

Christian School

1117 Koko Head Ave, Rm. A205

 CBS/CMM: OT - Prophets

Wednesday

TH301

The Revelation of the Heart of Our Father

Pastor Spencer Tang

This course focuses on a "heart" understanding of who God the Father is to you. If you have not personally experienced His love, we will address the hidden blockages that may be preventing it from flowing deeply into your heart. Together, we will explore how Jesus and the New Testament writers reveal the Father, examine the central importance of our heart in our relationship with God, and look at why we don't always know His love as well as we think we do. We will also discover our primary identity as beloved sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. This unique journey requires "eyes to see and ears to hear" for true heart transformation to happen. Come and see!

Administrative Fee: \$40 per household

July 8 - August 26, 2026 (8 weeks)

Wednesdays, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Zoom Online Only

 CBS/CMM: Theology

Thursday

OT004

Encounter Jesus in Numbers

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 the Book of Numbers. Ever wonder what he told them? You may have never read the Book of Numbers. Or maybe you

read it a long time ago. It's a book filled with Jesus.

Join us as we encounter Jesus in the Book of Numbers. Like those first disciples, our hearts will burn within us.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household

July 9 – August 13, 2026 (6 weeks)

Thursdays, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Zoom Online Only

 CBS/CMM: OT - Pentateuch



NT001

Gospel Transformation Series

Pastor Todd Capen

What does a life look like that has been changed by grace? What is spiritual renewal? Participants in this class will explore implications of the gospel in fresh insights into gospel identity, gospel growth, and gospel love. An exciting course, indeed! This is part one of a four-part series.

Administrative Fee: \$35 per household

August 20 to September 10, 2026

(4 weeks)

Thursdays, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Zoom Online Only

 CBS/CMM: NT - Gospels



ONE DAY SEMINARS

SEM-NT010

エペソ人への手紙から学ぶ 教会とは何か

What Is the Church? Learning from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Rev. Yoshi Fujinami

Taught in Japanese only, this one-day seminar addresses a time when many people think of the church primarily as an organization, a building, or a weekly gathering, offering instead the much deeper vision presented by the Apostle Paul. In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul reveals God's eternal purpose for His people and explains what it means to be the Body of Christ in the world today. Throughout the day, the seminar will



ONE DAY SEMINARS

explore the major themes of Ephesians, guiding participants through God's eternal plan for the Church, salvation by grace, and our new identity in Christ. Attendees will also dive into what it means to foster unity in a divided world, grow together as the Body of Christ, live in the power of the Holy Spirit, and navigate spiritual warfare while standing firm in faith.

Whether you are a new believer, a church leader, or a long-time student of Scripture, this seminar will help you gain a deeper understanding of God's design for His Church and your place within it. It serves as an invitation to join together and rediscover the beauty, purpose, and calling of the Church through Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

Administrative Fee: \$20 per household
Saturday, July 11, 2026 (1-day)
9:00 AM – 2:30 PM (includes 1-hour lunch break at noon)
Zoom Online Only

CBS/CMM: Flex Hours



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.

SEM-OT002

Strategies for Overcoming Difficult Times: Introduction to the Red Sea Rules

Dr. Elaine Eng

Many Christians face difficult times and crises in their lives. The perilous situation faced by the Israelites at the Red Sea is a graphic example. The seminar will introduce Robert Morgan's work on the Red Sea Rules and examine Exodus 14 to discover biblical strategies for facing our Red Sea circumstances.

Exodus 14:10 "As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD."

Administrative Fee: \$15 per household
Saturday, July 18, 2026 (1-day)
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM HT (from NY)
Zoom Online Only

CBS/CMM: Flex Hours

SEM-NT004

Talk Story with John

Dr. Gary Manning Jr.

We can understand John's message about Jesus better if we learn to pay careful attention to how he tells his story. John uses a number of story-telling "tricks"

to help us learn who Jesus is and how to respond to him. Lecture will be followed by extended Q&A about any topic related to the Gospels or their historical background.

Administrative Fee: \$15 per household
Saturday July 25, 2026 (1-day)
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM HT (from LA)
Zoom Online Only

CBS/CMM: Flex Hours

SEM-BTS115

RECLAIM: 7 Steps to Rediscover Your True Identity (in Mandarin)

Ms. Brooke Wei

RECLAIM is a seminar rooted in biblical truth, designed to enable participants to identify areas of rebellion and lostness in their lives and to restore their true identity in Christ through the perspective of God's Kingdom. It helps participants personally experience the transforming grace of God's redemption, encounter the profound love of His covenant, and reclaim their identity and worth in Christ—living a life that is called, faithful, and abundant.

Administrative Fee: \$20 per household
July 18 and August 8, 2026 (2-days)
Saturday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Zoom Online Only

CBS/CMM: Flex Credit Hours

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: _____

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 July 1, 2026

Course No.	Course Name	Admin Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> CE119	Music Theory Essentials	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> OT023	Exposition of Isaiah	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> TH301	Revelation of the Heart of Our Father	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> OT004	Encounter Jesus in Numbers	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> NT001	Gospel Transformation Series	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-NT010	What is the Church? Paul's Letter	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-OT002	Strategies for Overcoming Difficult	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-NT004	Talk Story with John	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-BTS115	RECLAIM: 7 Steps to Rediscover Identity	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> SEM-OT001	Heart on Fire - Encounter Jesus	\$20

Total Administrative Fee _____

Optional gift to BIH _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____



BIH
BIBLE INSTITUTE OF HAWAII
Founded in 1972

829 Pensacola Street, Room 204
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 595-4700
www.biblehawaii.org

Ka 'Olelo 'O Ke Ola is a quarterly publication of Bible Institute of Hawai'i.