

WANT TO BE A

MINISTRY INTERN

In Hawaii?


at Kailua Christian Church

Explore the world of chaplaincy for persons experiencing homelessness and its intersection with church revitalization in a loving, supportive environment in paradise


INCLUDES

- ✓ Complimentary Housing
- ✓ Supportive Community
- ✓ Fulfilling Mission

DURATION

 3 months - 1 year

LOCATION

 Island of Oahu, Hawaii

(808)261-0125

www.kailuachristianchurch.org

kailuacch@gmail.com

Internship Site Description

Name	Kailua Christian Church Service Learning Community Internship
Location	317 Manono St, Kailua, Hawaii
Website	www.kailuachristianchurch.org
Church Size	100
Denomination	United Church of Christ
PT / FT	FT 40 hours a week, PT 10-15 hours a week
Duration	3 months, June 1-August 17, 2025, or 1 year, June 1 2025-May 24, 2026
Type of Position	Volunteer - Paid Internship
# of Positions	6
Salary Basis	Volunteer Stipend, \$300-500/month
Benefits	Complimentary housing and utilities, complimentary weekly meals and groceries. Participants will live in dormitory-style rooms with two shared bathrooms, a kitchen, and lounge/study space. All students will be provided bicycles to navigate the small beach town of Kailua and bus passes to reach site partnerships or other areas of the island recreationally. 4 weeks vacation for year long participants.
Language Applicants	English, Japanese, Hawaiian Applicants must be aged 20-25. Applicants must be studying relevant theological, biblical, social work, or nonprofit management coursework at an accredited institution.



Mission and Learning Objectives

Students will be living together in a Service Learning Community of ministry peers seeking to develop their pastoral voice and leadership style in context of local church and chaplaincy environments. The communal mission for the students will be trifold: 1.) to imagine solutions for the declining mainline church, including developing a contemporary service under direction of the Pastor, Worship Leaders, and a Special Committee, 2.) to develop an existing chaplaincy with Hawaii's largest homeless services organization, the Institute for Human Services (IHS), 3.) to analyze the context of Christianity in historically colonized settings and its impact on the future of the Christian faith in practice.

Students will be held in supportive discernment while they determine their ministry direction by a community that has years of experience guiding Seminarians through their pastoral calls, as well as having access to and education from a variety of professional pastors and chaplains. The declining church is the fact of life for mainline seminary students' future job prospects and has a huge impact on the durability of chaplaincy careers, as the funding and support for most chaplaincy jobs comes from local church facilitation. Further, Christianity in historically colonized contexts often operates differently than Christianity in majority Western contexts, and the nature of the globalized, post-colonial world will impact future pastoral job opportunities.

This internship community is an exercise in preparation for the environment of ministerial job prospects in chaplaincy, local church pastorship, and international mission that students may face upon graduating from their theological institutions. Additionally, for students interested in international mission work, this is an enlightening environment to learn about Christianity in context of historically colonized populations. The learning objective of the community and its individual internships is to evaluate the connection between community chaplaincy, the local church, and international mission work, and imagine solutions relevant to students' future ministry careers.

Students will be expected to assist Sunday service and preach quarterly; design and execute a Vacation Bible School (VBS) program for keiki aged 6-12 at the end of the Hawaii DOE's summer calendar; community outreach for the church; and assist a homelessness outreach team at Windward Oahu beaches with IHS under the direction of the Pastor, Music Director, Worship Chair, and IHS staff.

Students should also develop a strategic plan or learning assessment on if or how the local church and its worship services fit into the concept of chaplaincy or outreach ministry, in acknowledgement of an overarching learning goal of the interconnectedness of humanitarian relief systems and local community organizations such as churches.

Students will be expected to take classes and provided readings on International Mission and Christianity in post-colonial societies will be expected to work in a combination of the above environments while integrating learning objectives concentrating on the history and contemporary context of Japanese and/or Hawaiian Christianity. Students will be expected to articulate by the end of their internship their learned perspective on theological and social

contexts of native Hawaiians, Japanese, Filipino, and Micronesian immigrants to Hawaii, and their intersectional journeys through Christianization and colonization.

Goals of the Service Learning Community include:

- Developing the intern's pastoral voice as a leader in the Church and Community;
- Analyzing the intersection of community spiritual care with local church ministry;
- Navigating the decline of the mainline Protestant church and its impact on Chaplaincy opportunities;
- Understanding Christianity and its contextual practice in historically colonized and multicultural environments.

Weekly time commitments expected of interns (35-40 hours a week for summer intensive, 10-15 hours a week for year long):

- Weekly reflection dinner with the Service Learning Community and Committee of Kailua Christian Church;
- Bi-weekly spiritual coaching with professional Spiritual Director;
- Weekly workshop with rotation of guest Pastors (summer only);
- Researching church and its effect on social service systems (reading materials provided);
- Researching the effects of Christian colonization on indigenous and vulnerable populations, in particular common populations in Hawaii (reading materials provided);
- Planning, advertising, and executing a Vacation Bible School for the week of July 28-August 1, 2025;
- Visiting and serving in a chaplaincy and/or social work capacity at the Institute for Human Services (homeless services);
- Both missions at the church or the shelters should intentionally integrate knowledge of cultural practices into ministry work.
- All participants will be expected to attend and participate in traditional Sunday worship service weekly and provide a testimonial summary for the congregation about their progress on a rotating basis.
- All participants will be expected to attend at least 1 Council and/or Deacons meeting to help provide leadership insight. Students will be provided space at those meetings to ask questions about the processes involved in church leadership.
- All participants will be expected to preach for a worship service or teach a Christian Education class for the church once (summer) or quarterly (year long) during their service.
- Participants will be expected to take at least 2 trainings on Hawaiian history, culture, and spirituality.
- Duties may be adjusted according to student interests.

Demographics of the Service Learning Community Site Kailua, Hawaii



Source 2020 Census

65 or older in Kailua 19.6%
5 or younger in Kailua 5.6%

Adult Day Care Centers in Kailua 2
Child Care Centers in Kailua 20

White 43.8%
Asian 20.3%
Two or more Races 28.9%

Owner occupied housing 74.5%
Median selected monthly owner
cost-without a mortgage \$695
Median gross rent \$2,698

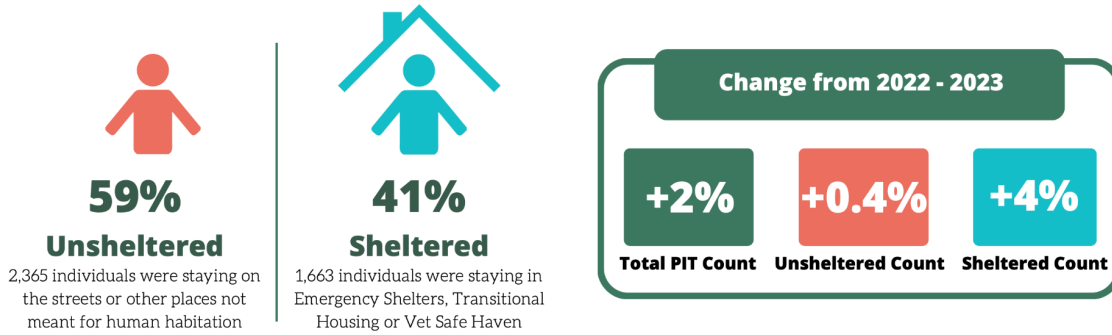
Persons in poverty 4.3% in Kailua

Kailua is an affluent neighborhood of Oahu that, according to the census data, holds a low poverty rate and is highly residential. The demographics of Kailua Christian Church reflect the demographics of its surroundings in that we are a mostly middle class, ethnically Japanese community in the middle of a residential neighborhood. However, our demographics – as with most UCC churches in 2024 – are aging at a much higher rate than our neighbors. Part of the mission of the Service Learning Community is to reflect and address this problem appropriately in context of the student participants' intended pastoral or chaplaincy career.

Homelessness on Oahu 2023

4,028

people experiencing homelessness
on O'ahu on the night of January 22, 2023



The data suggests that the number of people in the PIT Count peaked in 2017 and began decreasing in 2018 before increasing slightly from 2022 to 2023. In 2018, the number of unsheltered surpassed the number of sheltered for the first time. The unsheltered numbers increased significantly in 2019 and then decreased slightly in 2020 and has somewhat stabilized in the last couple of counts.

Source - Partners in Care Oahu:

<https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/pit>

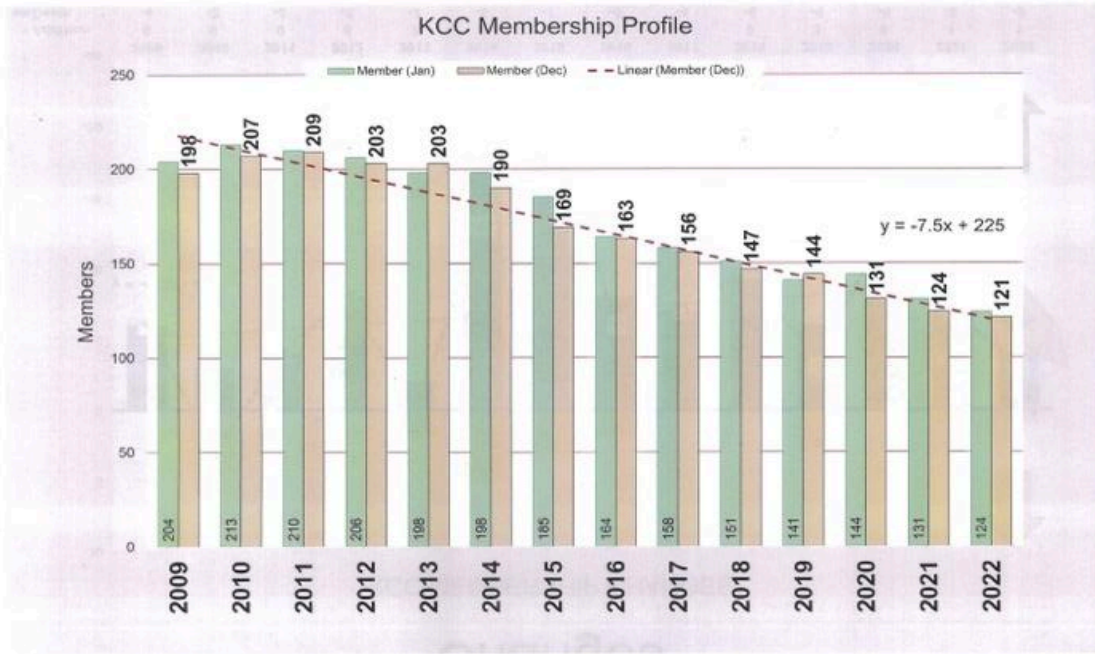


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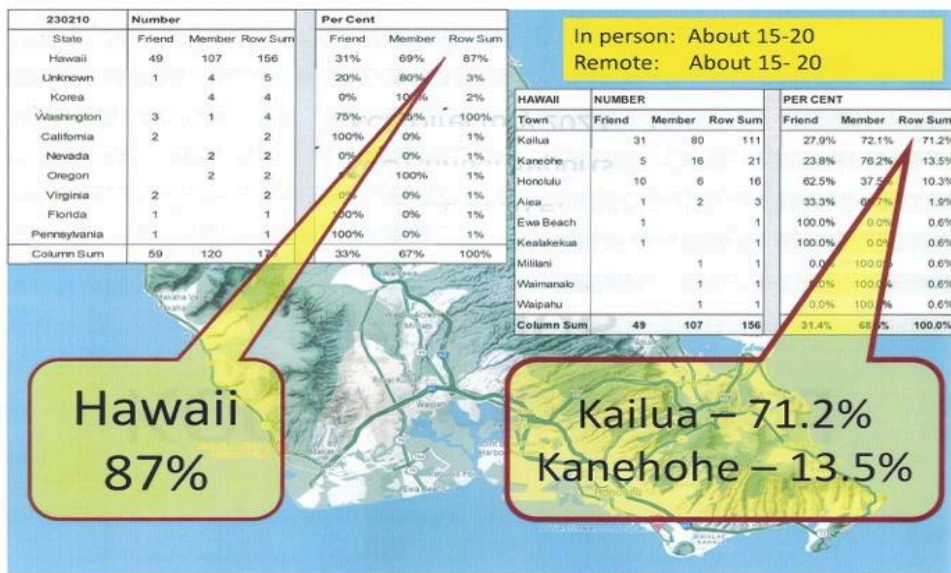
Hawaii holds the unfortunate statistic of being in the top 5 US states with the highest per capita population experiencing homelessness in the country. The Institute for Human Services (IHS) is the oldest and largest homeless services company in Hawaii. With 3 emergency shelters, over a dozen respite and transitional homes, and a staff of 200+ dedicated homelessness specialists, IHS provides a robust environment for seminarians considering chaplaincy to serve and imagine their futures as professional chaplains in a social services environment. Pastor Irene Willis Hassan of Kailua Christian Church is the former Director of Chaplaincy for IHS, and Connie Mitchell, current Executive Director of IHS, is the former Associate Pastor of Kailua Christian Church. Our church has a long standing relationship with this organization and Pastor Irene continues to serve as volunteer Chaplain for them every Friday with intention to expand the Chaplaincy through ecumenical partnerships and the Kailua Christian Church Service Learning Community.

Membership of Kailua Christian Church

Members



Members and Friends



Application for Service Learning Community Internship
Kailua Christian Church

Full Legal Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: M ___ F ___ Non Binary ___ Prefer not to say ___

Phone Number: ___-___-_____

Address: _____

Are you most interested in the Pastoral Ministry, Chaplaincy, or International Mission Track?:

Pastoral Ministry ___ Chaplaincy ___ International Mission ___ Other: _____

If you play a musical instrument, please tell us which one(s):

Do you have social media marketing or advertising skills?

Do you have any disabilities that need to be considered for appropriate housing accommodations?:

Dietary restrictions:

Allergies:

Medical conditions:

We require all interns on our property to be medically insured. If you do not have health insurance, are you willing to sign up to receive complimentary medical insurance from UCC National Ministries?:

Y ___ N ___ N/A ___

Is your seminary or university offering any financial support for your internship? Please explain:

The following questions are intended to help us get to know you. Please take up as much space as you feel is appropriate to answer the questions.

1.) Describe your overview understanding of Christian theology and mission:

2.) Describe why you are applying for this internship. Include information about what you think you will bring to the Service Learning Community and what you are expecting to take away from the experience:

3.) Describe your knowledge of Hawaiian history, culture, and spirituality. Have you ever experienced mission in a cultural environment different than your own?:

Mahalo for completing your application for the Service Learning Community at Kailua Christian Church! Please send the completed application to kailuacch@gmail.com. Supplementary information including resume, links to articles and accomplishments, or references may also be attached. Questions may be directed to the same e mail address as above or by phone at (808)261-0125. The application period will be closed on March 7, 2025, and candidates will be interviewed and selected over the course of the following 2-3 weeks. Date for beginning of service, when selected candidates are expected to be on island and prepared to serve, will be June 1, 2025. 1-Year students will be expected to remain in service until May 24, 2026, and 3 month students will be expected to remain in service until August 17, 2025.