

Aloha!

1775 S. Beretania St.,
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 741-6294
oahubaptist@gmail.com

2024 Leadership Team

Rev. Michael "Bong"
Abagon
FBC Wahiawa
Moderator

Rev. Jerrell Tate
Abundant Life Fellowship
Vice-Moderator

Mrs. Charlene Vaughn
FBC Pearl City
Recording Clerk

Rev. Jeff Mullis
Olivet Baptist Church
Asst. Treasurer

Members

Mrs. Hazel Capinpin
Word of Truth

Mr. John Dionisio
Mililani Baptist Church

Rev. Hawn Soo Jang
New Central Community
Church

Dr. James McElrath
Olivet Baptist Church

Dr. Matt Sanders
Waialae Baptist Church

Mrs. Annie Lam
Living Faith Baptist
Church

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we gather for this year's annual meeting, I want to extend a warm welcome to all churches, messengers, and guests. It is truly a joy to see our community come together in pursuit of our shared mission.

This year's theme, "Healthy Churches, Healthy Network," resonates deeply with our commitment to align ourselves with the Scriptures' mandate to go into all the world and make disciples. We are reminded that our ultimate goal is to honor and love God above all, nurturing vibrant communities of faith that reflect His glory.

Throughout our time together, we will also focus on the critical work being done among the younger generation. We are committed to providing theological training for our leaders and members, fostering an environment where everyone can grow in their faith. Our networking efforts aim to strengthen our partnerships and serve our churches more effectively. We celebrate the fellowship and unity among both men and women in our network, recognizing that together we can achieve more for the Kingdom.

As we conduct our meeting, several important decisions await us, including the approval of the proposed constitution and bylaws, the budget, and the appointment of new team members and officers who will guide us in the coming years. I encourage each of you to engage in these discussions prayerfully and thoughtfully, seeking God's wisdom and guidance.

In this spirit of unity, may we echo the prayer of Jesus found in John 17:23: *"May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me."* Let this be our prayer as we strive to reflect His love and truth in all that we do.

Thank you for your dedication, service, and commitment to the Oahu Baptist Network. Together, let us continue to pursue a healthy church and a healthy network, united in our mission to make disciples and glorify God.

In Christ's love,



Pastor Michael "Bong" Abagon
2024 Moderator, Oahu Baptist Network

OAHU BAPTIST NETWORK
17TH ANNUAL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024

- | | | | |
|---------|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| 5:00 pm | Registration | | |
| 5:30 pm | Dinner Fellowship & Exhibits | [6:30 pm | Childcare Opens] |
| 6:45 pm | Prelude | | |
| | • OBN Youth " <i>Praise</i> " | | |
| 7:00 pm | Opening Worship & Opening Prayer | | |
| | - Worship Team | | |
| | - Pastor An D Nguyen of Dong Tam Baptist Church | | |
| | Welcome & Introductions | Pastor Michael Abagon | |
| | Report & Testimonials from Ministry Team | | |
| | • OBI | | |

Business Meeting

- Motion to approve the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Motion to approve 2025 Operating Budget
- Motion to approve 2025 OBN Calendar
- Motion to approve 2025 OBN Leadership Team members and officers

- Motion to approve Proposed Constitution & By-laws

Video: "OBN Family Album" Pastor Page Ayalde

Message Pastor Jeff Mullis

Closing Worship & Benediction Worship Team

- Pastor Amel Dominguez

OBN 16th Annual Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2023

First Southern Baptist Church of Pearl Harbor

Present: 89 messengers from 22 OBN churches and 17 guests

6 PM: Registration, Exhibits (Alzheimer's Association, BCM, ISM, OBI, Practical Shepherding, Senior Ministry, and WMU), and Dinner (Royal Kitchen/Liana Benn)

6:45 PM: Worship team led in music and singing

7:00 PM: Pastor Alvin Keamo, FSBC Pearl Harbor, welcomed everyone to FSBC PH and led in prayer. Pastor Jamie McElrath led in singing "A Mighty Fortress" and then prayed. Pastor Michael Abagon, OBN moderator, welcomed all to the 16th OBN Annual Meeting. He asked the OBN Leadership Council to come up to the podium area and to introduce themselves and to share their church's name and what focus area they are involved with. [12 of the 14 members were present; Hawn Soo Jang and Jeff Mullis were absent]

New Pastors and Workers

Pastor Abagon recognized the following new pastors and their wives and a new worker:

- Phillip and Betsy Barr, Living Faith BC
- Alvin and Charlotte Keamo, FSBC Pearl Harbor

- Eddie and Faleiva Hunt, Malama Christian Fellowship Church (formerly FBC Nanakuli)
- Dave Choi, Antioch BC (not present)
- Kyle McCool, new Young Adults specialist at FBC Wahiawa.

He then invited all the pastors present to come to the front and asked Dr. Craig Webb, new HPBC Executive Director-Treasurer, to pray for them.

Focus: OBI

Pastor Harlan Nakasone, Co-Director of Oahu Bible Institute, shared updates on OBI and included news about a partnership with Pastor Eddie Hunt and his church, MCFC, in providing discipleship training for its members. Pastor Hunt gave a brief summary of how this training and OBI partnership has helped him and his church.

Harlan was assisted by Bill Taylor, Co-Director, and Linda Taylor, Registrar, in the presentation of Certificates for completion of OBI coursework to three of four students: Hazel Capinpin, Isagani Jocson, Roy Oda, and Vince Tabudlo (absent).

Church Assistance

Pastor Jerrell Tate gave a short introduction to the work being done at Pastor Hunt's Church, Malama Christian Fellowship Church (MCFC), with the help of the OBN Church Assistance team. Hazel Capinpin followed with a detailed report on the renovation and repairs being done on the church parsonage and buildings.

Message

Pastor Michael Brooks of Waianae BC spoke on OBN's theme of Christ in you, the hope of glory, Colossians 1:27. He then invited his wife Janet to come up and speak further about their church ministry. Janet shared that the houseless population there has increased by 64%. She encouraged those in attendance to read Paul Miller's book, A Praying Church, and emphasized the need for prayer in our churches for our communities. Janet shared that Waianae BC is growing and increasing as they do ministry in their community. They have a B&B - Breakfast and Bible. Those who came before used to come in and listen to the gospel message, but those coming now are staying on the outside and just coming for the breakfast. "More than ever," Janet shared, "our churches need prayer. We need prayer." Pastor Abagon asked Dr. Robert Miller to come up and to pray for the Brooks.

Business Meeting

Charlene Vaughn, OBN Recording Clerk, announced that there were 89 messengers registered, 17 guests in attendance, and 22 churches represented in the meeting. Moderator Michael Abagon declared the messengers seated.

Recommendation No. 1: Election of OBN LC Officers and Members

We recognize the need to revise the constitution and by-laws but as we are working under the current Constitution and By-laws, we nominate the entire OBN officers and

Leadership Council members to be presented at the annual meeting for election.
*[Annie Lam moved and Jerrell Tate seconded the motion in the OBN LC
October 12, 2023 monthly meeting and the motion was passed unanimously.]*
The Recommendation was presented and passed unanimously.

Recommendation No. 2: Proposed 2024 OBN Budget presented for approval

*[David Whitehead moved and Jerrell Tate seconded the motion in the OBN LC
October 12, 2023 monthly meeting and the motion passed unanimously.]*

The Recommendation was presented and David Whitehead pointed out that the Olivet BC address is the address to be used for OBN mail.

The Recommendation was approved unanimously.

Recommendation No. 3: Proposed 2024 OBN Calendar presented for approval

The Recommendation was presented and approved unanimously.

The Church Assistance video on the MCFC renovation was shown.

Pastor Phillip Barr of Living Faith BC led the closing prayer.

OBN Moderator Michael Abagon adjourned the annual OBN meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Vaughn
OBN Recording Clerk

Summary Motions of the OBN Leadership Team

November 2023 - October 2024

November 2023

M.1. Charlene moved to accept the Oct. 26 minutes, Jerrell seconded, motion was passed unanimously to accept the October minutes.

M.2. Jerrell Tate, on the recommendation of Church Assistance, moved that OBN continue to assist Pastor Eddie Hunt with the \$600 monthly housing assistance for October and November. Hazel Capinpin seconded, motion passed unanimously.

M.3. Jerrell moved that OBN fund the \$3,000 shortage needed to complete Phase I from the OBN surplus income; Harlan seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

M.4. Jerrell made a motion for \$6,000 to be committed to renovating the Malama Christian Fellowship Church parsonage to a safe and functional condition including the bedroom, bathroom, living room and kitchen; and appointing retired pastor Gary Yafuso as the project manager through the duration of the project. Motion seconded by Hazel Capinpin. Motion was approved unanimously.

December 14, 2023

Pastor Bong moved to accept the November 2023 minutes. Motion approved.

M.1. That Malama Christian Fellowship receives \$600.00 for support for December 2023 in assistance of Pastor and his family's temporary lodging. Motion approved.

M.2. That an Administration Team be formed to oversee ministry partnerships, personnel, and other administrative issues. Motioned by Pastor David, second by Annie.

Amended M.2. That an ad hoc team be formed to develop what the Administrative Team would do and who should be on it. Motioned by Pastor Matt, second by Hazel. Motion passed.

M.3. The following were nominated to be on the above Ad Hoc Team: Matt, Jamie, Faith, Hazel. Pastor Bong as ex-officio.

January 11, 2024

M.1. Bong moved that the minutes be accepted with corrections [Sean Lathrop's last name and Hazel Capinpin's first name], Charlene seconded, motion passed unanimously.

M.2. Faith McFatridge moved that OBN keep \$20,000 in the FHB checking account. Amended M.2. Faith moved to amend the motion to keep \$20,000 in the OBN's FHB checking account and funds over that amount be moved into an interest-bearing, high-yield account that David will check into with the FHB. Jamie McElrath seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously.

M.3. Jamie McElrath moved that OBN give \$600 in January 2024 to support Pastor Hunt. Faith McFatridge seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

M.4. Motion coming from the committee to have the Communications Team take the lead on the Arrangements and Credentials tasks for the OBN's Annual Meeting. Second not needed as it is coming from the committee; the motion passed unanimously.

M.5. Motion coming from the committee to propose Thursday, October 24, 2024 as the date for the OBN 2024 Annual Meeting. Question raised about Thursday night and if it were possible to have it on a Friday night instead? Following a discussion on the best night for the meeting, Annie proposed an amendment.

Amended M.5. To have the OBN 2024 Annual Meeting on Friday, October 25, 2024; came from committee so no second needed. Question asked about getting opinions from

pastors regarding this change. However, it was decided that the motion will be voted on and if passed, then a notice would be sent out early to inform the OBN pastors and churches about the change in the day so they can plan ahead for it. The vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

February 15, 2024

M.1. Charlene moved that the January 11, 2024 OBN LC minutes be accepted as written. Annie seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes was passed unanimously.

M.2. Bong made a motion to give \$600 for the month to support Pastor Eddie Hunt with funds from Church Assistance. There were 5 who were in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 who wanted to have more information before making a decision. The motion was approved by the majority.

March 21, 2024

M.1. Charlene made a motion to accept the February minutes. Annie seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously.

M.2. Jerrell made a motion to approve the monthly assistance for Pastor Hunt for March and April. The motion was approved unanimously by all members present.

April 18, 2024

M.1. Charlene moved that the March minutes be approved as written, Jerrell seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

M.2. That OBN officially designates the following OBN Leadership Team positions as the "Administrative Team." The positions making up the team would be: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer, and Secretary. The responsibilities of the Administrative Team would be to consider and make decisions on the issues of OBN that do not fall under the responsibility of any of the other OBN Teams, which are Missions and Evangelism, Church Planting/Revitalization, Church Assistance, Communications, Mentorship/New Leader's Orientation, Discipleship.

Discussion ensued about adding two more team members and making it a positive statement.

David moved that the motion be amended:

Amended M.2: That OBN officially designates the following OBN Leadership Team positions as the "Administrative Team." The positions making up the team would be: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Treasurer, Secretary, and two other members of the team. The responsibilities of the Administrative Team would be to consider and make decisions on the administrative, financial, and legal issues of OBN that do not fall under the responsibility of any of the other OBN Teams, which are Missions and Evangelism,

Church Planting/Revitalization, Church Assistance, Communications, Mentorship/New Leader's Orientation, Discipleship. Faith seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

M.3: David moved that Jamie McElrath and Matt Sanders be added as the two other members of the OBN Administrative Team. Jerrell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

May 16, 2024

M.1. There being no corrections or changes to the minutes, Charlene moved that the minutes be approved as written. Jerrell seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved.

M.2. Bong moved to Agenda item No. 7 and made a motion to give \$1000 to Kalihi BC for their VBS. Harlan Nakasone seconded the motion. Discussion followed as to whether there are other churches that will need VBS help and to consider the possibilities of how funds can help more than one church. Jerrell said that the funds requested will be used for ground transportation and food and will be under the direction of Missions and Evangelism. The motion was voted on and had unanimous approval.

M.3. Annie made a motion to get a P.O. box for OBN and Jerrell seconded the motion.

Discussion began regarding the need to move OBN's mailings from Olivet BC. It was noted that five checks were sent to OBC by Linda Taylor in January 2024 to pay for OBI tuition for five students. However, Linda was later asked about the checks because the checks never cleared. After checking and finding that the checks were never seen or misplaced by OBC, she asked the students to put a stop payment on the original checks; then asked each to resubmit another check to OBN. OBC also had their mailbox broken into on more than one occasion, but has corrected the situation with delivery to their office.

Amended M.3. Annie amended the motion she made earlier to have a PO box obtained under the direction of the Administration Team and that it shall be accessed by two (2) OBN LT members. Hazel Capinpin seconded the amended motion.

After a short discussion, Hawn Soo Jang requested that the motion be tabled, Matt seconded. A vote was taken and all but one agreed to table the motion.

Amended Motion 3 was tabled.

June 20, 2024

M.1. There being no corrections or additions, Charlene moved that the May 16, 2024, minutes be approved as written, John seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

M.2. Bong moved that a deadline of June 30, 2024 be set for submission of reimbursement of expenses for the Phase 1 renovation work of MCFC. John seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion took place. The motion was passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

OBN Post Office Box - Tabled Amended Motion from May meeting

M.3. Bong brought back the tabled amended motion regarding the possibility of obtaining a Post Office box for OBN and Jamie seconded the motion. Discussion took place. Olivet BC is willing to continue as the mailbox location. Annie withdrew her amended motion.

July 18, 2024

Quorum was not met, only six members present. It was decided to have the meeting with reports but no motions would be considered due to the need to have more members present to review the draft of the Constitution and By-laws.

August 15, 2024

M.1. Jamie moved that the OBI budget, which was submitted earlier to Gateway Seminary, be adopted for inclusion in the OBN 2025 budget; Harlan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

M.2. Charlene moved that the minutes of the July meeting be approved, Hazel seconded, motion passed unanimously.

M.3. Harlan made a motion to adopt the Church Assistance Policy Draft from the Church Assistance Team, John seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

M.4. Hazel made a motion to release the funds designated for MCFC, John seconded the motion. The release of funds was discussed and it was suggested that a letter to accompany the check be sent to MCFC to explain that these funds were designated for use by MCFC by an OBN church. The motion was unanimously approved.

September 19, 2024

Motion 1: Annie motioned to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024 meeting.

Seconded by Jerrell. Motion approved.

Motion 2: The OBN Council approves to forward the proposed revised Constitution and Bylaws to the OBN churches 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Seconded by Jamie. During the discussion, Matt and Jamie from the Administration Team clarified the role of the facilitator in Article VI of the By-laws, and suggested to amend Article VI as follow:

(Original) Facilitator: The chief employed leader of OBN shall be called the facilitator. He shall lead the OBN Leadership Team to help churches work together to carry out the

purposes of the network. He will provide overall leadership and oversight to the ministries of the network. He shall have the option of participating *ex officio* on any of the teams, task forces, and advisory groups established by OBN.

(Amended) Facilitator: The chief employed leader of OBN shall be called the facilitator. He shall lead the OBN Leadership Team to help churches work together to carry out the purposes of the network. He will provide overall leadership and oversight to the ministries of the network, including serving as moderator. He shall have the option of participating *ex officio* on any of the teams, task forces, and advisory groups established by OBN.

Amended M.2. by Matt to read as: The OBN Council approves to forward the proposed revised Constitution and Bylaws to the OBN churches 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting with the addition of the phrase “including serving as moderator”. Seconded by Annie. Motion was approved.

October 17, 2024

M.1. Charlene moved that the September 19 minutes be approved as written, Annie seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

M.2. Bong moved that the 2025 Proposed OBN Budget be presented at the OBN Annual Meeting, Jamie seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

M.3. Annie moved that the Child Care Guidelines be adopted for the care of children ages 2-7 during the Annual Meeting, seconded by Jerrell, motion was approved unanimously.

M.4. Jamie moved that the OBN Leadership Team affirms this action in regard to the Baptist Faith and Message and establishes a two-year transition period with a one-year extension granted upon request. Seconded by Charlene, and approved by Jamie, Bong, Charlene, Annie, Matt, and Jerrell.

M.5. Annie moved that this slate of officers and members be presented at the meeting:

Moderator: Michael “Bong” Abagon

Vice-Moderator: Jamie McElrath

Treasurer: [None at the moment]

Recording Clerk: Charlene Vaughn

Members: Hazel Capinpin, John Dionisio, Annie Lam, Harlan Nakasone, Matt Sanders,
and Jerrell Tate

Charlene seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

**O'AHU BAPTIST NETWORK
CONSTITUTION - PROPOSED [October 25, 2024]**

Preamble

Recognizing our common mission to advance God's kingdom by fulfilling the Great Commission cooperatively, we hereby establish and maintain this network of Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC) churches on O'ahu.

ARTICLE I - Name

O'ahu Baptist Network (OBN)

ARTICLE II – Mission Statement

The O'ahu Baptist Network exists to fulfill both the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40) by fostering ministry partnerships among member churches to advance God's kingdom.

ARTICLE III - Composition

The O'ahu Baptist Network shall be made up of churches on O'ahu who are member churches in good standing in the HPBC and who have entered a covenant with OBN churches to partner together in accordance with this constitution and the accompanying bylaws.

ARTICLE IV - Theological Basis

One of the foundational principles of the church is the witness to God's power that comes when believers from diverse backgrounds and giftings are united by the Spirit through a common faith in the

person and work of Jesus Christ with the primary purpose of building up the body of Christ in love (e.g., 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4). Southern Baptists, in accordance with the clear teaching of Scripture, believe that this unity takes place first and foremost in the local church. Secondly, God calls together churches of like faith to cooperate in advancing the kingdom more effectively and to display to the world the unity that comes from God for those who share a common faith in Jesus Christ. Our common faith comes from the full counsel of God's Word and is summarized by Southern Baptists in the current version of the *Baptist Faith and Message*.

ARTICLE V - Philosophical Basis

Southern Baptists believe in the autonomy of the local church and that churches in a given area are stronger when they pool resources and cooperate in a spirit of love and servanthood as exemplified in the example of Jesus Christ. To put into practice both of these beliefs, OBN is founded on the voluntary association of each member church that in no way limits the autonomy of each church. While each church may determine how it participates in OBN, OBN may disassociate from churches that demonstrate clear divergence, in belief or practice, from our common faith.

ARTICLE VI – Relationship to the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention

By the same beliefs in Article V, OBN will retain its autonomy while freely associating with the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention. This autonomy includes its rights to self-governance and the use of its financial resources. Its relationship with the convention should in no way be understood as a subordinate relationship.

ARTICLE VII - Annual Meeting

The OBN shall meet annually in general session at a time designated by the OBN Leadership Team. The annual meeting shall be composed of duly elected messengers from OBN churches and presided over by the officers of OBN.

ARTICLE VIII - The OBN Leadership Team

The OBN Leadership Team shall be made up of 8 to 12 members from participating OBN churches and elected by a simple majority of messengers at a regular meeting of the OBN. Leadership Team members must be members in good standing of a participating OBN church throughout their terms. Members shall serve a three-year term. There is no limit to the number of terms that can be served, but members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. In accordance with this constitution and the accompanying bylaws, this council has full authority to govern the OBN between annual meetings. The same officers shall serve both the annual meeting and the OBN Leadership Team.

ARTICLE IX - Officers

The officers of the OBN are moderator, vice moderator, clerk, and treasurer. They shall be elected at the annual meeting. If vacancies occur between annual meetings, the OBN Leadership Team shall have the authority to elect a replacement at a duly called meeting to finish terms. Officers shall serve two-year terms and may be elected to consecutive terms.

ARTICLE X - Organization

In accordance with this constitution and the accompanying bylaws, OBN may create and administer programs and structures that will accomplish its purpose.

ARTICLE XI - Rules of Order

Roberts Rules of Order (most current edition) shall be used as rules of order for OBN unless otherwise specified in this constitution and/or the accompanying bylaws. The rules should be followed in a spirit of love, humility, servanthood, and grace that the Bible demands of all followers of Christ.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

This constitution may be amended at a regular meeting of OBN provided that the following conditions are met:

- Submission: Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the OBN Leadership Team 90 days prior or earlier to the regular meeting.
- Notice: Proposed amendments must be sent to all member churches by mail and/electronic means 30 days prior or earlier to the regular meeting.
- Quorum: Quorum will be established when 50 percent of member churches are represented by at least one messenger.
- Approval: Approval will require a 75% majority of messengers present at the meeting. No proxy voting will be allowed.

ARTICLE XIII - Dissolution

If at any point this organization should dissolve and cease to exist, all assets (including cash, properties, and equipment) shall pass to the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.

O'ahu Baptist Network Bylaws – Proposed [October 25, 2024]

Article I

Composition and Affiliation

The O'ahu Baptist Network (OBN) shall be made up of churches on O'ahu who are part of the Hawai'i Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC) and who have requested and been granted network membership.

Article II

Membership

OBN member churches will meet all of the following criteria:

- Affirm the current version of the Baptist Faith and Message
- Current members of HPBC in good standing
- Located on O'ahu
- Submitted a written request to the OBN Leadership Team for membership expressing a desire to partner with OBN in accordance with the OBN covenant
- Elected by majority vote at an OBN annual meeting

OBN Covenant

Believing that kingdom work is more effective and more reflective of God's glory when we act cooperatively, OBN churches enter into a covenant to:

- Develop partnerships and other cooperative efforts in missions, evangelism, discipleship, leadership training, church planting, church revitalization, and church assistance
- Pray for each other
- Promote activities of OBN and OBN member churches
- Communicate needs and available resources to share with other churches
- Foster inter-church fellowship and ministry opportunities
- Provide regular financial support consistent with the church's finances
- Participate in OBN activities

Article III

Meetings

OBN shall hold such meetings as deemed prudent for the purpose of the work of the network.

Annual Meeting: OBN will convene for a meeting each year. The OBN Leadership Team shall be responsible for setting the time and place of the annual meeting as well as planning the agenda and program. The time, date, and agenda for the annual meeting must be communicated to affiliated churches by mail and/or electronic means no less than 30 days prior to the meeting.

Quorum shall be reached when one third of affiliated churches are represented.

Messengers: Messengers to OBN annual meetings shall be elected by each affiliated church on the following basis: Five messengers for the first 50 members – 1 for every additional 10, not to exceed 12 messengers. No person shall serve as a messenger of a church of which he or she is not a member. A list of messengers and alternate messengers shall be certified by the church clerk and provided at or before the meeting.

Special Meetings: The OBN Leadership Team may call a special meeting of OBN. Notice of called sessions must be communicated to the churches by mail and/or electronic means a minimum of seven days prior to the called meeting. A quorum shall be reached at such meetings when 50% of affiliated churches are represented.

Messengers for special meetings: Messengers to the last preceding meeting (regular or special) shall constitute the membership of the special meeting, except cases in which new messengers are certified by affiliated churches and submitted to the OBN Leadership Team prior to the special meeting. Same limitations per church.

Minutes: A record of the proceedings of each meeting (annual or special) shall be distributed to all affiliated churches.

Article IV

Officers

OBN officers shall be: moderator, vice-moderator, clerk, and treasurer. Note: a separate document "Policy and Procedures of the OBN" shall describe their duties and responsibilities. The officers preside over the annual meeting and the leadership team.

These officers shall be nominated from and by the OBN Leadership Team, be elected at the annual meeting, and assume office at the conclusion of that meeting. All officers must be members of affiliated churches throughout their term of service.

Officers are elected to two-year terms and may be nominated and reelected for consecutive terms.

Should officers need to be replaced during their terms, they may be replaced by vote of the OBN Leadership Team to complete the unexpired terms.

Article V

OBN Leadership Team

The governing body of OBN between annual sessions shall be the OBN Leadership Team. The OBN Leadership Team shall be responsible for:

- Acting on behalf of OBN between annual sessions
- Enacting decisions made by OBN during annual sessions
- Working with affiliated churches, their members, and other ministries to develop, facilitate, initiate, and/or maintain activities and programs in the following areas:
 - Discipleship
 - Evangelism and missions
 - Church planting and revitalization
 - Church assistance
 - New leader orientation and mentorship
 - Communication
- Developing a budget proposal and submitting it for approval by OBN at its annual meetings
- Preparing and presenting a ministry plan to OBN at its annual meetings
- Responding for OBN on matters that occur between annual meetings and require action before the next annual meeting

Composition: The OBN Leadership Team shall be made up of 8 to 12 members elected at an OBN annual meeting. When a member cannot complete his or her term, a replacement may be elected by the leadership team. All leadership team members must be members in good standing of an OBN member church throughout their time of service.

Organization: While the entire team will be responsible for all six areas listed above, each council member will be assigned to one or more of the areas. These members will be responsible for developing teams who will focus on the area to which they are assigned. These teams will be responsible for working with OBN churches, their church members, and ministries to help coordinate, resource, facilitate, and/or plan efforts in their particular area.

Terms: The OBN Leadership Team member terms shall be three years. Members may be elected to consecutive terms.

Article VI

Staff

OBN may from time to time employ such staff as deemed prudent to accomplish the purpose of the network.

Facilitator: The chief employed leader of OBN shall be called the facilitator. He shall lead the OBN Leadership Team to help churches work together to carry out the purposes of the network. He will provide overall leadership and oversight to the ministries of the network. He shall have the option of participating *ex officio* on any of the teams, task forces, and advisory groups established by OBN.

OBN may employ this person in partnership with The North American Mission Board (NAMB) and/or the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC) provided that this partnership does not infringe upon the autonomy of the network.

How chosen Should OBN and/or the OBN Leadership Team determine that a facilitator is necessary and sufficient financial resources are available to fund the position, the OBN Leadership Team will convene a sub-committee to search for and recommend to the leadership team a candidate to serve as facilitator. Approval of the candidate will require a 75% majority of the OBN Leadership Team.

Other Staff: The OBN Leadership Team may also hire additional staff to carry out OBN's mission effectively if sufficient financial resources are available to support the position(s).

Article VII

Amendments

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of messengers present and voting at an annual meeting, provided that the amendment has been presented in writing at a previous session of the OBN Leadership Team and communicated with churches by mail and/or electronic.

2025 Calendar of Events

*From SBC Calendar

January 2025 Practical Shepherding Begins (OBN) 16 - OBN Council Meeting 19 - Sanctity of Life Sunday* 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day 29 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship	July, 2025 4 - Independence Day 7-11 - Youth Camp - Puu Kahea OBN 17 - OBN Council Meeting 22 - 26 - Children's Creative Arts Camp (OBN) 30 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship
February, 2025 20 - OBN Council Meeting 20 - President's Day (Washington's Bday) 26 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship	August, 2025 (Missions Church Month) 21 - OBN Council Meeting 4 - Public School First Day of School 15 - Statehood Day 24 - Global Hunger Sunday* 27 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship
March, 2025	September, 2025

2-9 - Week of Prayer and Mission Study for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering 17-21 - Public School Spring Break 17-21 - Youth Creative Arts Camp (OBN) 20 - OBN Council Meeting 26 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship	1 - Labor Day 2-6 Sue Nishikawa Local Missions Week of Prayer and Offering 18 - OBN Council Meeting *Sept 28 - Oct 4 - Week of Prayer for Oahu Baptist Network (OBN) 24 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship
April, 2025 17 - OBN Council Meeting 18 - Good Friday 20 - Easter 30 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship	October, 2025 5 - CP Sunday* 6-10 - Public School Fall Break 16 - OBN Council Meeting 24 - OBN Annual Meeting 29 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship
May, 2025 Focus on Christian Education 1 - Day of Prayer (OBN), <i>National Day of Prayer</i> 15 - OBN Council Meeting 11 - Mother's Day 26 - Memorial Day 28 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship 30 - Public School Summer Break	November, 2025 20 - OBN Council Meeting 11 - Veterans Day 27 - Thanksgiving 30 - Dec 7 - Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering* 26 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship
June, 2025 19 - OBN Council Meeting 11 - King Kamehameha Day 10-11 - SBC Annual Meeting: Dallas TX* 15 - Father's Day 25 - OBN Pastors Lunch Fellowship	December, 2025 18 - OBN Council Meeting Dec 22- Jan 2 - Public School Winter Break

OBN Council and Leadership Teams

The Oahu Baptist Network's Leadership Council has played a pivotal role in advancing the Gospel across the island of Oahu through meaningful networking among churches. These dedicated members, all active participants in Oahu Baptist Network churches, promote and support partnerships that strengthen our collective mission. Each individual volunteers for specialized teams, including Discipleship, Evangelism and Missions, Church Planting and Revitalization, Church Assistance, New Leader Orientation and Mentorship, and Communication, ensuring a holistic approach to ministry.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who have faithfully served in recent years: Pastor David Whitehead, Faith McFatridge, Janet Chin, and Pastor Jeff Mullis. As we gather to elect new council members and officers today, we also recognize and thank our current Council Members: Pastor Michael Abagon, Pastor Jerrell Tate, Charlene Vaughn, Annie Lam, John Dionisio, Pastor Jang, Pastor Matt Sanders, Pastor Jamie McElrath, Hazel Capinpin, and Pastor Jeff Mullis for their unwavering commitment and service.

OBN Baptist Men's Report

John Dionisio

Praise the Lord for the men that have come out throughout the year to be trained, challenged and inspired in being the men God designed them to be. This year, we focused on building men of prayer and leadership.

- **Deacons, Pastors & Wives Training (April 13)**, *Navigating Church Leadership*. 15 churches throughout the network attended as speakers, Geoff and Debbie Hammond, challenged men and women respectively, in the areas of servitude, humility and innovation.
- **Prayer Breakfast (May 4)**, 75 men and 21 churches attended Dr. Hammond's training focused on leadership, prayer and family. Follow-up leadership materials were given to men for application.
- **Cut Tree Project (Aug 17)**, OBN Baptist Men participated with Pastor Shaw Okawara and retired pastor Gary Yafuso in a service project to help Life Christian Church (LCC) cut down a tree on the former Halawa Heights BC property that is now Life Christian Church's new home.

- **Men's Overnight Retreat** (Dec 6 & 7), Baptist Men will gather in Pu'u Kahea with the theme, *Men Boldly Living In The Spirit*. Pastor John Endriss from Hilo together with other pastors of the network will facilitate conversations and training regarding Men on Evangelism, Men on Drawing Family to Christ and Men on Building Other Men. Register now and go to oahubaptist.net.



OBI Director's Report 2024

We glorify our Lord and Savior for all the good things that are happening at Oahu Bible Institute. Our goal is to provide Biblically-based and culturally relevant training in developing effective leadership to build God's Kingdom. What did the Lord do at OBI in 2024?!

🎬 Praise the Lord for the following Students receiving Certificates:

- o Mr. Rainer Neth, Christian Ministry Certificate (CMC-A, 12 hours)
- o Mr. Zachary Pacupac, Christian Ministry Certificate (CMC-A, 12 hours)
- o Mr. Domingo “Jun” Tubana, Transformational Teaching Certificate (TTC-A, 12 hours)
- o Mr. Gordon Won, Introduction to Christian Studies Certificate (ICS-A, 12 hours)

🎬 Met with Dr. David McQuitty – Dr. McQuitty is planning to support OBI financially. (He shared how excited he is to see the school growing and expanding).

🎬 Held a workshop on Discipleship led by Dr. Tony Woods on October 12 at Nuuanu Baptist Church, 8:30 am to 1 pm. At this event, a book by Dr. Woods was given to each person who attended. The goal of this workshop was to promote growth in the church of OBN.

🎬 Pastor Amel Dominguez become an instructor at OBI in the fall.

🎬 Conducted an OBI End of Spring Semester Celebration at Malama Christian Church on June 8. Many people came and the OBI students were recognized and celebrated.

🎬 I asked the question to students and instructors of OBI --“How has OBI impacted your life?”

“OBI is a blessing to me; it has strengthened me as a Christian.”

“I have gone through a very difficult 2023. OBI has helped me recover.”

“I am very excited to receive training online through OBI.”

I am excited to see how the Lord will use OBI to bring kingdom growth in 2025.

We give thanks to the Shiraki Foundation for their continued financial support for all OBI students.

We give thanks to the OBN leadership for their support and partnership.

Thank you for your prayers and support,

Harlan Nakasone

Ministry Leaders / New Leadership Report 2024

We glorify our Lord and Savior for the task of encouraging and mentoring new ministry leaders. Here are the things we did in 2024.

📅 Had a lunch meeting with Amel Dominguez, new pastor at First Baptist Church of Haleiwa. Prayed for him and his family. In talks with Amel, I found out that he was interested in teaching at Oahu Bible Institute. Amel is now teaching a preaching course for OBI this fall semester.

📅 I met with Alberto Camacho, new pastor at Kalihi Baptist Church. In our meeting, we talked about how we can work together in the ministry. Kalihi Baptist, Fellowship Baptist, and Living Faith conducted a joint VBS in July. Praise the Lord, 30 children received Jesus as Lord and Savior.

📅 Met with Eddie Hunt pastor at Malama Christian Fellowship. Oahu Bible Institute conducts two classes every Saturday to help his members grow spiritually.

Thank you for your prayers and support,
Harlan Nakasone