

SATURDAY PRAYER MEETING

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7:15-8:45AM // MGMC CONF ROOM

Please join us this Saturday as we pray for our church and other needs in the community and the world around us. Prayer is the backbone to all that we do! If you would like to utilize the free childcare during our time, please contact the church office @ 839.4002 or admin@mgmchawaii.com by Friday.

KYLO CONFERENCE WITH DANNY SILK

MAY 31-JUNE 2

THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 6:30-9PM

SATURDAY: 5-8PM

Register today at TOWHAWAII.ORG or you can sign up with a credit card at the back, following each service.

SEIE STANLEY CHINEN'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

KALIHI UNION CHURCH

11:00AM (10AM VISITATION)

We would like extend our deepest condolences to Miriam, Keith & Nancy Chinen and their family for the home-going of Keith's dad, Seie, who passed away peacefully on March 14. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!

For as long as I can remember, we have always referred to Easter Sunday as the “Church’s Super Bowl Sunday”. After all, it is when we celebrate the day our Lord resurrected and defeated death! But we have always put a lot of effort and finances into different performances, speakers, activities, and food. We would sincerely pray for people to get saved and folded into our church. And many did get saved! But not many would get folded in. On the contrary, like many churches across the nation, one of our lowest attended services of the year was the week following Easter! We would also hear comments like, “Wow. This is really different from the Easter service.”

So this year, as we are embracing more and more who God has made MGMC to be, we’re just going to be US. And seeing what God has been doing as He is breaking shame in us, I am absolutely sure that it is going to be a dynamite service! The main event of Easter this year is going to be BAPTISMS.

Again?! you might ask. Yes, again 😊. The overwhelming joy over someone getting baptized on earth, as well as the party in Heaven, is unlike any other! I have loved how so many people stay to watch and celebrate with those getting baptized. But if I still haven’t convinced you, I would like to share a revelation that God showed me this past week from Ed Silvano’s book *Ekklesia*.

In his chapter on the New Testament Baptisms, Ed explains that we see 3 different types of baptisms in the New Testament:

1. A baptism of repentance (i.e. like John the Baptist did)
2. Baptism in the name of Jesus (declaring that Jesus is the Messiah and one’s personal Savior)
3. Baptism in the Holy Spirit (seen after the Day of Pentecost)

I realized that oftentimes, I promote the first two types of baptisms when talking to people or making an announcement from the front, but rarely, if ever, do I mention the

baptism in the Holy Spirit. Baptism, in my mind, was a public declaration of one’s faith in Jesus Christ and symbolic of the old life passing away. But we have missed a very important piece of the pie!

“When the second baptism (in water in Jesus’ name) is administered without the third baptism (in the Holy Spirit) taking place in the same time frame, the second baptism then reverts back to the pre-cross baptism because the new believers are not given the **power that comes with baptism in the Holy Spirit.**”

(Ed Silvano, page 108, emphasis mine)

It’s Holy Spirit who changes our hearts. It’s Holy Spirit who makes us totally new. It’s the power of the Holy Spirit that leads us and empowers us to overcome fear. It’s Holy Spirit who sets us free from bondage. It’s Holy Spirit who allows us to have intimacy with the Father and others. It’s Holy Spirit who heals our families. Without being filled with Him and His power, we are left to just survive and live with it or use our self-will, which never lasts.

So this is what I humbly submit to you: If you have never been baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit, I want to strongly encourage you to do so next week! This is going to be a monumental event! We have seen it happen time and time again in the baptisms that have been taking place but if you feel the Lord nudging YOU, jump in! You have nothing to lose, and everything to gain. No shame, right?!

Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—

all who have been called by the Lord our God.”

Acts 2:38-39