

WANT TO JOIN A MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

In Hawaii?

at Kailua Christian Church

Serve in chaplaincy with people experiencing homelessness, , engage creative solutions for local churches, and immerse yourself in Hawaiian history, culture, and the complex legacy of Christianity—all in a loving, supportive environment in paradise.

INCLUDES

- ✓ Complimentary Housing
- ✓ Supportive Community
- ✓ Fulfilling Mission
- ✓ Stipend and Transportation

DURATION

3 Months (May 31, 2026-August 16, 2026)

LOCATION

📍 Island of Oahu, Hawaii

(808)261-0125

www.kailuachristianchurch.org

kailuacch@gmail.com

Fellowship Site Description

Name	Kailua Christian Church Service Learning Community Fellowship
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
Duration	May 31 2026-August 16, 2026
Type of Position	Volunteer - Paid Fellowship/Internship
# of Positions	3
Salary Basis	Volunteer Stipend, \$500/month
Benefits	Complimentary communal housing and utilities, complimentary weekly meals. Participants will live in dormitory-style rooms with two shared bathrooms, a kitchen, and lounge/study space. All participants will be provided bicycles to navigate the small beach town of Kailua and a shared vehicle to reach site partnerships or other areas of the island recreationally.
Language Applicants	English Applicants must be aged 21-26. Applicants must be studying relevant theological, biblical, social work, nonprofit management, at an accredited institution.



Mission and Learning Objectives

Summary of the Service Learning Community Fellowship Program

Kailua Christian Church's (KCC) service learning community is an exercise in preparation for the environment of ministerial job prospects in chaplaincy, local church pastorship, and international mission that participants may face upon graduating from their theological institutions.

Additionally, for participants interested in international mission work, this is an enlightening environment to learn about Christianity in context of historically colonized populations.

Participants will be held in supportive discernment while they navigate 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 many seminary participants' 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.

Participants will live in a Service Learning Community, collaborating with ministry peers to develop pastoral leadership and voice within local church and chaplaincy contexts. The program focuses on three key objectives:

1. Envisioning solutions for declining mainline churches, including contemporary worship and outreach.
2. Expanding chaplaincy with Hawaii's largest homeless service organization, The Institute for Human Services (IHS).
3. Exploring Christianity's role in historically colonized contexts to understand its impact on future ministry.

Weekly Commitments (35–40 hours)

- Weekly reflection dinner with the Service Learning Community and Committee.
- Monthly or on-call spiritual coaching with Spiritual Director.
- Weekly workshop with rotation of guest Pastors.
- Researching church and its effect on social service systems; the effects of Christian colonization on indigenous and vulnerable populations, in particular common populations in Hawaii; chaplaincy to individuals experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental illness (reading materials provided)
- Planning, advertising, and executing weekly community classes for children and/or adults based on the passions of each individual participant.
 - Planning, advertising, and executing a community event at the church showcasing the results of the weekly classes.
- 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.
- Maintaining a professional social media presence for the purpose of promoting outreach programs of Kailua Christian Church.
- All participants will be expected to attend and participate in Kailua Christian Church Sunday worship service weekly and provide a testimonial summary for the congregation at the conclusion of their fellowship..
- All participants will be expected to attend at least 1 Council and/or Deacons meeting to help provide leadership insight.
- All participants will be expected to preach for a worship service **OR** teach a Christian Education class for the church quarterly.
- All participants will be expected to participate in the Aha Pae'āina of the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ and participate in facilitating the Youth Event.
- Participants will be expected to take at least 2 trainings on Hawaiian history, culture, and spirituality.

Duties may be tailored 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

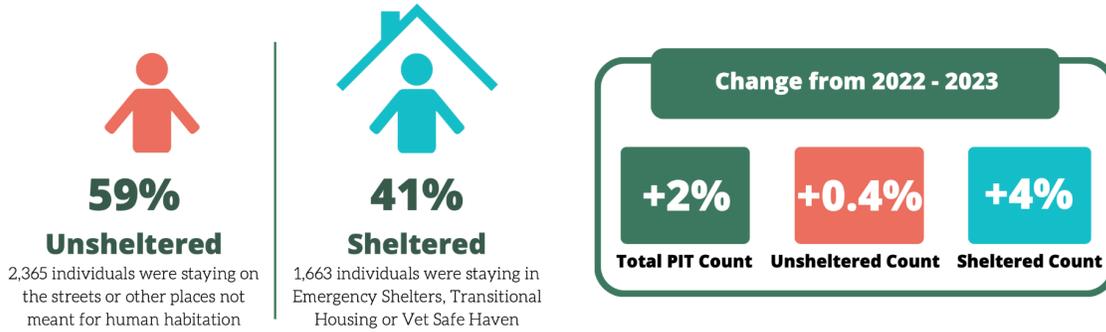
Persons in poverty 4.3% in Kailua

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, multi-ethnic/Asian community in the middle of a residential neighborhood. However, our demographics – as with most churches in 2025 – 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>



<https://ihshawaii.org>

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.

Application for Service Learning Community Fellowship
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 Local Church, Chaplaincy, or International Mission?:

Local Church ___ 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 a time when you were asked to solve a difficult problem with limited guidance and/or in collaboration with people you did not previously know. How did you navigate the situation, and what was the outcome?

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 email address as above or by phone at (808)261-0125. The application period will be closed on March 6, 2026, 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 May 31, 2026.