

# Parkdale United Church

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May 1, 2022

Hello everyone.

I am back from Hawaii, and am well rested and renewed. We had a fabulous time of sun and fun! A major highlight was lots of beach time! We visited eight different beaches all over the island of Oahu; each offered different scenery, sand, and wildlife! We also enjoyed paddle boarding on the Duke Kahanamoku Lagoon, watching Kaie and Rami learn to surf, and sunset beach walks! Overall, we all had a relaxing, sun-filled holiday!

I was reminded several times last week how amazing and intricate creation can be. On the last day of our trip, I discovered these amazing blue, jellyfish-like creatures; held up to the light, they looked like a tiny whale. They had a tiny spine and translucent body with a brilliantly blue underside that left blue ink on your hand. I was fascinated with these little blobs that seemed to have dropped out of the sky. I spent over an hour examining and playing with them; amazed that something so little could have such amazing detail. I was reminded that our God has a huge sense of humour; as I held up one of these creatures to the sun, its tentacles blew in the wind.



Suddenly, a man ran over and yelled at me to put it down and bury it in the sand immediately. I looked at him with a shocked expression. He told me it was a Portuguese man-of-war, and it could kill me with its sting. I was a little skeptical, but I put it down anyway. Then I laughed to myself at how complex creation could be, and how naïve this prairie girl could be. Yes, God's creation is magnificent and terrifying all at the same time; truly, our God has a great sense of humour! I am looking forward to seeing all of you on Sunday morning and sharing more stories!

Blessings,

Kim Holmes-Younger  
Candidate Minister,  
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