

For Official Release
PR001-02082025
Office of the Governor
Utulei, American Samoa
February 08, 2025



The Honorable Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula delivers a special address for the American Samoa Prayer and Fasting Conference, February 05, 2025.



The prayer and fasting conference for 2025 officially opened on February 05th at the American Samoa Community College Multipurpose Centre. Under the theme “A call to pray in the spirit for American Samoa,” the event brought together diverse denominations, united in the purpose of glorifying God.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Honorable Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula, esteemed religious leaders, and members of the public. In his special address, Governor

Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula expressed his gratitude and highlighted the significance of the conference. "This is a conference for prayer, revival, and fasting for this year. The most important thing is that each of us, in our hearts, has God the Heavenly Father," the Governor said. He also acknowledges the efforts of the organizing committee, noting that the prayer and fasting conference began in 2024 and has culminated in the leadership of the current administration. "The Pula and Pulu administration winning the election was not by our doing, but it is a calling from God," he added.

Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula reflected on his unexpected journey to public office. "After retiring in 2022 after 40 years in the federal government in Washington DC, it was not something I expected to happen. But we believed it was a calling from our Heavenly Father, and with the strong support of my wife and this prayer and fasting conference, Lieutenant Governor Pulumataala Ae Ae Jr. and I are now serving the people of American Samoa," he said. The Governor further shared, "It has now been more than 30 days since we took office, and I tell you, my heart, mind, and body are sound because of my unwavering faith and reliance on God."

The Honorable Governor, in his special address stated that he met with the Honorable Senate President Tualo Manaia Fruean and the Honorable Speaker of the House Savali Talavou Ale to discuss the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which provided billions in funding for American Samoa. The Governor highlighted the urgency of completing projects funded by ARPA, stressing that if the projects are not completed by the December 31, 2026 deadline, the territory may need to return the funds to the U.S. government. To expedite these efforts, Governor Pulaali'i issued General Memorandum 033-25, declaring an Infrastructure and Improvement Project Emergency, prioritizing the timely completion of critical projects.

"These projects will not only benefit the people of American Samoa but also our neighboring sister island, Samoa," Governor Pulaali'i stated. "Through collaborative efforts, we are confident these initiatives will be successfully completed."

The Honorable Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula continued by saying "The spirit of God is moving right now through each and every one of us. We each have ways of praying, we are all different and not made the same but God knows everything and does not judge how others worship and pray. Instead, ask yourself, Are you a righteous person, obeying and keeping the commandments? The most important thing to me is not being a Governor, is that each person I meet, like myself, has a relationship with God." In addition, Governor Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula stated "If we have righteous leaders, we will have an okay government. I do not want to be self-righteous but I just want to do the right thing by God, and by the people of American Samoa."

In concluding his special address, Governor Pulaali'i reminded the attendees, "Remember, if you split the word 'remember', we are all members of the body of Christ. Let us be holy people and follow the Word of God. My message to the people of American Samoa is to have a relationship with God, work with honesty and integrity, and our government will move forward."

First Lady Lois Phillips-Pula shared her testimony reflecting on the grace of God throughout their journey. "We prayed about running for office, wanting to know if we were doing the right thing, so many unanswered questions and going into the unknown. The Lord answered our prayers and all the questions I sought were answered through His love and grace," she said. She also expressed gratitude for the prayers of the community and acknowledged that the Governor is striving to make righteous decisions in a challenging world.

Before the Honorable Governor's departure, pastors and reverends gathered for a special prayer service, seeking God's continued blessings upon the Governor and First Lady as they dedicate themselves to serving the people of American Samoa.

The Praying and Fasting Conference is held at the ASCC Multipurpose Centre from February 5th-8th.

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