

Waves of Faith

Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Chartered 1959 –



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Dear Beloved KCC Ohana,

At the start of our summer programs that we have been building diligently for months, I am reminded of the words of Jesus in Matthew 11:28, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” These words resonate deeply with us as we reflect on the journey of our church community this year.

Undoubtedly, we have been working tirelessly, pouring our hearts and souls into the various ministries and programs of our church. Yet, despite our best efforts, there have been moments when we may have felt discouraged by the lack of manpower to accomplish all that we desire. It’s natural to feel this way when faced with challenges that seem insurmountable.

However, I want to take this opportunity to remind each and every one of you of the incredible work we have achieved together. Our industrious and faithful efforts have borne fruit in the form of a program that promises to bring us the much-needed support and manpower we seek. This program is not just a solution to our staffing challenges; it is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our congregation.

It’s important to recognize that the interns and individuals joining us through these new programs are not here to replace any of you. On the contrary, they are here to complement and enhance the work that you, the existing

congregation, have so tirelessly undertaken. You are the hands and hearts that have built this community, and you should take great pride in what we have accomplished together.

Yet, as we embark on this new chapter, let us not forget the most crucial truth of all: this is God’s church. Jesus Christ is the cornerstone, the one who guides and sustains us through every trial and triumph. Regardless of who is laboring in the vineyard, it is His presence that gives us true rest and peace.

So, my dear friends, let us take comfort in the assurance that we can rest in the arms of our Savior. Let us continue to labor diligently, knowing that our efforts are part of His divine plan. Together, let us trust in His promise of rest and renewal.

In His Love and Grace,

Pastor Irene



DEACONS CORNER**The Blue Hyacinth**

I love reading short, inspirational stories from The Upper Room.

This story, in particular, written by Ann Stewart of Australia, caught my eyes, as it parallels my life story of experiencing “Bloom where you are planted” and having a toolbox of Bible verses to call on, when life becomes too challenging.

**Ann Stewart’s story:**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV: Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ.

“As I was walking through my neighborhood, I noticed a neglected garden with lots of weeds and dry soil. **Then I spotted a beautiful blue hyacinth. It reminded me of the saying “Bloom where you are planted.”**

At times in my life that saying has encouraged me – times when **I have found myself in a place or situation where I have not chosen to be.** In such a time and place, it’s easy for me to give in to self-pity and complaining. The better choice, however, is to **choose to bloom and flourish.**

For me, the verses from **1 Thessalonians** quoted above, provide a model for how we can thrive in difficult situations – be they related to work, finances, relationships, health or home.

First, we can think about all we have in **Jesus** to be joyful about. Second, we can pray constantly, honestly telling God our feelings and asking for **God’s** help. After all, nothing lasting can be achieved on our own. Third, **Paul** says we are to be thankful for all the gifts God gives us each day. **Joy returns when we praise God, who loves us**

wherever we are, no matter where we are planted.”

Thought For the Day: I can find joy in any circumstance by giving praise to God.

Note: *The Upper Room booklets are provided free to members and friends. Located on the desk as you enter the sanctuary, be sure to pick one up – the stories will inspire you to make your day brighter!*

Love and Blessings,
Deacon Myra

PRAYERS & PRAISES**Please keep in your prayers**

- ~ Terumi and Rev. Howard Yoshida
- ~ Barney Pilla’s continued healing
- ~ Jean Kanazawa ~ Tim Ishihara
- ~ Gary & Susan Morita ~ Nathan Kohashi
- ~ Jennie Lee ~ Damien Wong
- ~ Lynne Nakano
- ~ Harvey’s co-worker’s husband, Ray
- ~ Matt’s Grandma’s surgery and healing
- ~ Carrie Grable ~ Henry Tom’s Ohana
- ~ John Sakamoto and his ohana
- ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health
- ~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann
- ~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Harrison Lum
- ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Ed & Noelani Jai
- ~ Winchell & Lily Lee ~ Richard Texiera
- ~ Karen Shimizu ~ Dennis Jinnohara
- ~ Jean Miyaji, Alice Esaki, Walter Yeda, Stella Wakamatsu, Nani Oda, Nancy Arakaki, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Sharon Mon, Dot Suzuki, Saeko Yoshida and all our high risked families
- ~ Dean’s Plumber’s family on the death of his father, Tony, who died from stroke.
- ~ Family of George Keoki Fisher who passed
- ~ Prayers for all our Worship Team



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

John Sakamoto
Sharon Mon
Kauai Todd
Elyse Grable
Travis Gerber
Dusty Grable
Kristen Miyahara
Matthew Imai
Shane Soma
Ron Meyers
David Nemoto

Jodi Sakaba
Kimberly Ogata
Monicalyn Martinez
Aileen Arashiro
Bryson Nakamoto
Teyvyn Higashi
Paisley Bay Grable
Jenna Gerber
Roy Yamauchi

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Larry & Sandra Siu
Dan & Jan Masuno
Paul & Kammy Grable

**SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO LYNNE NAKANO AND THE FAMILY OF PASTOR WARREN NAKANO –**

We mourn the loss of Pastor Warren who went to be with our Lord on Saturday morning, May 23 after a lengthy battle of health issues.

We will celebrate his life here at KCC on Sat. June 22, 2024 – 1:30 p.m. Visitation / 2:00 p.m. service to begin. / 3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. program concludes and meal to begin. / 5:30 p.m. end. All are welcome to this celebration. Ige's will cater the meal but if you would like to include a side dish or dessert, you are welcome to do so.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Matt and Aianna “Pie Pie” Wong recently became members of our KCC community on Easter 2024. Both Matt and Pie Pie were born and raised in Honolulu, HI. Matt is a proud graduate of McKinley High School, and Pie Pie graduated from Hawaiian Mission Academy. Matt and Pie met in June of 2021, and

quickly realized they had many things in common. One thing they had in common was that they were incredibly passionate about serving others yet they both had physical limitations. Matt knew he was born to serve in the Army, but was medically discharged after seven years of service against his wishes and efforts to stay in. As for Pie Pie, she was diagnosed with many chronic illnesses at age 15 which has affected her serving and work. Despite their health, service to God and others was always a priority to Matt and Pie. After Pie helped Matt realize his God given gift for music, Matt quickly looked for every opportunity to use his gift of music to bring joy to others. Matt has played music for people with Alzheimer's, children, youth, houseless people in Maui, and many others. Now, Matt is blessed to have a career focused in music whether that is being a worship musician here at KCC and HBA elementary school or a music publisher at TheBrewz and his own company, Go For Broke Music LLC. Ministry and volunteering is also a huge part of their life as a married couple. Both of them are committed High school leaders at FPC, which involves weekly youth groups, mission trips, camps, and supporting their youth in their personal life events. They both also volunteer with Family Programs where they take foster children out on fun excursions and are able to reunite them with their siblings who were separated in the foster system. They are so incredibly grateful to be a part of this church which has similar values of service, leadership, humility, compassion, and grace. Pie is especially grateful to be able to serve in King's Company here at KCC, since one of her passions is to build relationships with children and help them grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ in a fun, safe, and engaging environment! Matt and Pie feel so blessed to be part of KCC and to be able to be loved by this wonderful community and extend their love as well.



The children of King’s Company welcome all the children out there to come and join them every Sunday morning except the first Sun. of each month when we celebrate communion together with our families.



Join Pastor Irene on Thursday mornings at The Plaza in Kaneohe – 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for a great time of fellowship. The group meets on Thurs. mornings. **New study on 6/20** All are welcome to attend. Bring your

Bible and join us – 3rd floor activity room. Please RSVP to KCC Office so we can update you on schedule or location change. Mahalo.



WORSHIP NEWS

Out of 264 passages in the Bible that reference “worship”, here are five key passages for us to contemplate about worship:

1. Psalm 95:1–7

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

2. Matthew 28:8–9

So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.

3. John 4:21–24

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

4. Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

5. Revelation 5:8-14

And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" 14 And the four living creatures said,

Once again, thank you all for your generosity. It is truly a blessing to have members and friends like you who serve the Lord through generous donations and volunteer work for the betterment of Kailua Christian Church (KCC). A friendly reminder: If you would like to support this CBMF drive, please annotate "CBMF" on your check.

Faith Based Budget:

As you may know, Church budgets are Faith-Based. Prior to the beginning of a new year, a call for pledges is sent out to its members and friends. From pledges received (weekly, monthly, and/or annually), the Church budget, in part, is developed. So, the Church operates on the faith that the pledges are received to cover most of the Church's expenditures. Please note that the budget shows line items and associated budget amounts and these budget amounts still need to be supported by actual monies. In recent years, KCC has experienced a shortfall in income; its membership has decreased, and Church expenses have increased which make it challenging to run the Church.

Status of KCC Finances as of March 2024:

Income: \$ 35,885.46

Expenses: \$ 62,412.40

Please prayerfully consider increasing your support of KCC as we embark on this new chapter under the shepherding of Pastor Irene.

God Bless You!
Trustees

NEWS from your

Members and Friends of KCC,



To date, the Continuous Building Maintenance Fund (CBMF) drive has received \$4,335.



THURSDAY NIGHTS
6PM

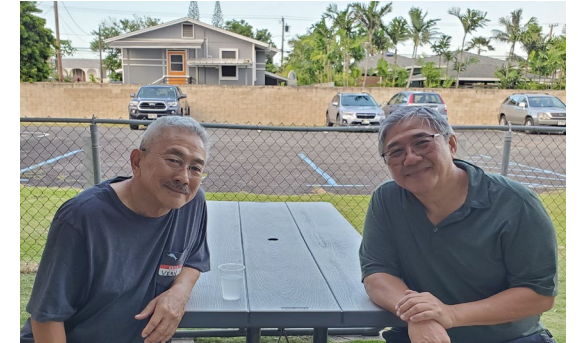
PA'INA NIGHT
at KCC

About Us:
We are Jesus followers offering a casual, free dinner service with music and rich theological discussion on a range of topics. Keiki welcome!

Contact Us

- 📞 (808)261-0125
- ✉️ kailuacch@gmail.com
- 📍 317 Manono St, Kailua, HI 96734

Come join us for a fun night! Invite a friend! Please see the schedule for June on the following page. For more information call 808-261-0125.



(Pics from first Pā'ina Night)



with grilled burgers and corn on cob and cupcakes went well in the front yard under the tree. It was a fun night with our interns facilitating the events of the evening welcoming 25 participants. Can't wait for our June 20th Pā'ina Night with special guest musician AOLANI SILVA. Hope to see you there too!



FUN TIMES! SPECIAL PEOPLE!

Thirty four people came to celebrate our first Pa ina Nite at KCC here on May 23, 2024. It was great to see so many join us for a great time of fellowship and worship in word and song. Pastor Irene and Debbie Fong was thanked for the great tasting Chili that we enjoyed that evening along with the great praise singing and reflective moments of sharing. We hope you will join us at our June 20th event. Our June 6th Pā'ina Night



Great Burgers, corn on cobb, and yummy cupcakes!



Thursday, June 13, 4pm
 BYE WEEK - HCUCC Aha Pae'āina

Thursday, June 20, 6pm
 Pā'ina Night
 Location: Front lawn or Room 3-4 (dependent on weather)

SPECIAL GUEST MUSICIAN: AOLANI SILVA

Menu:
 Shoyu Chicken & Rice
 Asian Garlic Green Beans
 Cookies

Topic: What would you say to your child self about the existence of God?

Thursday, June 27, 6pm
 Pā'ina Night
 Location: Front lawn or Room 3-4 (dependent on weather)
Menu: Tacos
 Topic: Reflect on the lessons you've learned from moments of adversity or challenge. How have these experiences shaped your spiritual beliefs and values?

Thursday, July 4
 BYE WEEK - Federal Holiday

Thursday, July 11, 6pm
 Pā'ina Night
 Location: Front lawn or Room 3-4 (dependent on weather)
 Menu:
 Fried Saimin
 Butter Mochi
 Topic: Should churches intentionally strive for multiculturalism, or is their effectiveness enhanced when they focus on catering to specific cultural and subgroup demographics?

NA ANELA MONTHLY NEWS

Na Anela i ka hana a ke Akua (Angels in the Works for God) Wellness Support Group

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!
May 25 (4 th Sat) – An awesome CPR/AED Refresher was presented by the new **Operations Manager, Mr. Joel Acevedo, AED Institute of America, in Rooms 3 & 4.**



Ten members and friends thoroughly enjoyed Joel’s hands-on training, by performing on the mannequin and AED equipment. We are also very thankful that KCC, through John Sakamoto’s generosity, is equipped with the Zilo CPR/AED equipment and annual training.



Other Na Anela Dates to Reserve on Your Calendar:

Jul 27 (4 th Sat) – Anatomy of a Cyber Attack and Cyber Security Best Practices – Aaron Tanaka, Honolulu Community College (HCC) Computer, Security & Networking Technologies Professor (retired); sanctuary

Sep 28 (4 th Sat) – Finding Joy Amidst Chronic Pain, Aianna (Pie Pie) Wong, Registered Behavioral Therapist for Autistic Children, All About Behavior LLC; sanctuary

Nov 15 (3rd Friday) – Home Modifications Critical for Aging in Place, Catia Garell, Accessibility Specialist, Thrive for Life LLC; sanctuary (speakers are not available on Saturdays).

St. Francis Healthcare System’s Caregiver Education and Wellness Classes continue to provide excellent caregiving and health/wellness classes for the community.

St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii’s Caregiver Education and Wellness Calendar.

June 2024 classes can be found at: <https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/s/courses>.

Register directly online.

For questions, please contact Kauai Asing (808) 547-8092 or kasing@stfrancishawaii.org.

Individual Classes:

Jun 14: Fri, 10 – 11 am; Hands-on Bathing for the Family Caregivers (in-person class)

Weekly Session Classes:

Jun 01 – 29: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Francis

Jun 03 – 28: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:15 pm; Zumba by Frances

Jun 03 – 24: Mon, 8 – 8:45 am; Big Moves! Monday (focus on people with Parkinsons)

Jun 04 – 25: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Jun 05 – 26: Wed, 8 – 8:45 am; Empower You!

Note: *In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kupuna Village in Liliha.* Contact me at [yamadamya@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com) or call (808) 348-2297 if you have questions.

Please invest your time and energy in any one of these “mostly” free and informative classes.

Commit to your Wellness Journey and Stay Healthy in 2024! God Bless you all,

Myra



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 E-Mail: kailuacch@gmail.com
 Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org
 Rev. Irene Willis Hassan, Senior Pastor

THE FATHER'S LOVE

*Excerpts from Four Examples of God's Fatherly Love
 by Pastor Dustin Crowe*

God's attributes—including love—are not like human traits that strengthen or weaken nor are they like moods that come and go. God is all of his attributes perfectly, all the time.

Father's Love in Sending

"For God so love the world, that he gave his only Son." (John 3:16)

The Father's love for us is nowhere clearer and more compelling than in the sending of his only Son—freely, unprompted, and undeserved.

Father's Love in Revealing

"And whoever sees me sees him who sent me" (John 12:45)

God loves us by not only making clear how he feels about us—stating his love and delight in us throughout the Bible—but also revealing who he is to us. He not only brings us into a relationship with him, invites us to draw near to him at any time, but he also makes himself known to us so that we might know him. He reveals aspects of himself in creation, makes himself known in the Word, and then sends his Son to provide a perfect image so we know what he's like.

The Father's Love in Adopting

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God." (1 John 3:1)

God the Father's love can be seen in the friendly and familiar vocabulary describing a believer's relationship with God. We are called his sons and daughters. The Father doesn't hold back love from us or wait to shower us with love until we've earned it. God's love is a steady, powerful stream of unconditional love to his children. God holds us close to his heart (Is. 41:11), carries us in his arms like (Is. 41:11), and walks with us hand-in-hand (41:13).

Father's Love in Disciplining

"For the Lord disciplines the one he loves." (Hebrews 12:6)

God's discipline is a calm but firm correction, never a fit of rage. He aims to teach us not reject or punish. The fact that God corrects his children should encourage us just how much he cares. He is involved and concerned about the kind of people we are becoming and our long-term joy. Discipline provides proof he will never give up on or leave us in our sin.

May we let the truth of our gracious heavenly Father's love be immersed in our heads and our hearts that we'll be refreshed in security and rest.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!