

Waves of Faith

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



AUGUST 2024

Volume 39

Issue 08



Aloha KCC Ohana,

As summer comes to a close, the words from Jeremiah 29:11 spring to my mind: “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” These words have been a guiding light for us through a whirlwind summer, full of new programs that have infused our church with incredible momentum and joy.

Our summer has been nothing short of miraculous, with our dedicated interns playing a pivotal role in organizing much of our Sunday services, nearly all of the Pa’ina Night services, and extending their energy into community outreach and advertising. Their presence has brought a vibrant atmosphere of youthful exuberance to our congregation, sparking the Holy Spirit’s flame within us all.

As our interns prepare to return to their home contexts, it’s natural to feel a bit of uncertainty. You might be wondering, “Well, now what?” Let me assure you, though our interns are leaving, the Holy Spirit remains very much alive in them and in our church. God has seen the faithfulness and dedication that have been poured into this congregation on His behalf, and we need not fear.

This summer’s internship program was a pilot, designed to give us a small glimpse of the possibilities we can unfold together. The journey does not end here; in fact, it has just begun. We have laid a foundation, and now it is up to us to build upon it.

To help us reflect and grow from this summer, an evaluation of the summer programs will be distributed at the beginning of August. I kindly request that each of you take the time to fill it out and either return it by mail or hand it in to the office by August 25.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 1, when we will hold a congregational meeting. Don’t let the term “meeting” intimidate you; it will be a luau party to celebrate our accomplishments this summer! We will reflect together on our experiences and begin to imagine what the future holds. This meeting on September 1 is purely informational. We will hold a voting meeting regarding the future of these programs tentatively on September 29.

Let’s keep the spark of the Holy Spirit alive in our hearts and look forward with hope and anticipation to the plans God has for us.

In His Service,

Pastor Irene



FOR I KNOW THE
plans I have for you
DECLARES THE LORD

plans to prosper you
AND NOT TO HARM YOU

PLANS TO GIVE YOU
hope and a future
JEREMIAH 29:11

DEACONS CORNER



HANDS AND FEET

I love reading the short, inspirational stories from The Upper Room. This story written by Todd Diedrich (Wisconsin) reminds me of how we can work for God by serving as deacons and how we need to encourage other Kailua Christian Church members to sign up to be deacons in 2025!

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

“Scripture tells us that we are to be the **hands and feet of Christ**. In the parable of the good Samaritan, who cared for a stranger alongside the road, Jesus shows us what it means to serve others. The Samaritan helped the man in several ways, by tending to him physically as well as paying for the cost of his care. The Samaritan could have walked right by the man, just as others before him had done. But, the Samaritan stopped and cared for the man.

How are we being called to help others today? Perhaps a neighbor needs help mowing their lawn or shoveling snow. Maybe a stranger alongside the road needs a meal. We can befriend someone who is lonely or volunteer when no one else is able or willing. We can give financially to meet a need. **Each of us may be inspired to help serve in different ways. Let us all be alert for opportunities to serve as Christ’s hands and feet.”**

Thought For the Day: Through acts of compassion, I am serving as **Christ’s hands and feet**. It is a joy to help God.

How are we being called to help others today? How can we serve as Christ’s hands and feet? Talk to the deacons or Susan Morita if you feel God is calling you to serve as a deacon in 2025!

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 in many different ways!

**Love and Blessings,
Deacon Myra**



PRAYERS & PRAISES



Please keep in your prayers

- ~ Terumi and Rev. Howard Yoshida
- ~ Nathan Kohashi ~ Anne’s knees
- ~ Jean Kanazawa ~ Diane Lee’s step-mom
- ~ Gary & Susan Morita ~ Dean’s friends
- ~ Jennie Lee ~ Damien Wong
- ~ Lynne Nakano ~ Mike Reyes & Sons
- ~ Bill Cunningham ~ Joel & Stacey Vega
- ~ Joe w/ brain tumor, cancer & Sue w/ cancer
- ~ 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
- ~ Prayers for all our Worship Team

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August



- Howard Yoshida
- Gracie Glenn
- Mary Ann Nemoto
- Gail Yoneshige
- Cassie Grable
- Karen Miyahira

- Jane Tengan
- David Yoneshige
- Dr. Michelle Pangilanan

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



- Eric & Mary Ann Nemoto
- Vernon & Jennifer Pang
- Aaron & Colette Tanaka

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

Bianca Tamura
Katelyn Akamine
Saeko Yoshida
Carmen Kelly
Deidre Harrison
Richelle Vance
Jean Sakata



Kauila Miller
Kiley Reese Kano
Maikai Miller
Robert Maeshsiro



Rev. David & Kristen
Baumgart Turner
Reggie & Myra Yamada
Dennis & Debbie Fong
Stan & Akiko Nakamura
Barney & Diane Pilla

Deepest Sympathies to:



Larry Au and family on the loss of his wife, Eunice who passed away on Monday, August 5, 2024. Eunice was 90 years old.

Mike Reyes and his family on the loss of his wife, Janet Williams-Reyes. Jan passed away from cancer on August 3, 2024. Jan was 64.



NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA
(Angels in the Works for God)
Wellness Support Group

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

August 03, 2024, 10-11 am, Rooms 3 & 4 and Zoom

Fifteen in-person and five Zoom attendees were intrigued/educated for 60 minutes, as retired HCC Professor Aaron Tanaka, explained the “Anatomy of a Cyber Attack and Cyber Security Best Practices”!

We learned a lot about hackers and our responsibility to identify the signals when a hacker is targeting us - noticing the urgency of the help needed, the isolation (no time to verify with others) and the scammer’s choice of misspelled words. Mahalo Plenty Aaron! Mahalo for all who took time out to learn. Mahalo for the ono refreshments and donations to the Mahalo goodie basket! We had fun learning to be Cyber Safe!



Na Anela Dates to Reserve on Your Calendar:

Sep 28 (4th Sat) – Finding Joy Amidst Chronic Pain, Aianna (Pie Pie) Wong, Registered Behavioral Therapist for Autistic Children; 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). Last meeting of 2024.

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. August 2024 classes can be found at: <https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/s/>. Register directly online. **For questions, please contact the Call Center (808) 547-6500.**

Individual Classes:

Aug 09: Fri, 10 – 11 am; Hands-on Bathing for the Family Caregivers (in-person class)

Weekly Session Classes:

Aug 03 - 24: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Francis

Aug 06 - 27: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Aug 08 - 30: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:15 pm; Zumba by Frances

CHANGE: Registration for Glen Higa’s classes no longer fall under St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii. Mondays, 8 – 8:45 am; Big Moves! Monday (focus on people with Parkinsons) and Empower You! on Wednesdays 8 – 8:45 am. There is \$\$ charge per class.

For Big Moves, click on the following link: [Big Moves! Monday Registration \(glenhiga.com\)](http://glenhiga.com)
For Empower You, click on the following link: [Big Moves! Monday Registration \(glenhiga.com\)](http://glenhiga.com)

Note: *In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kupuna Village in Liliha.*

Contact me at 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

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

Being able to worship and fellowship with friends old and new – from near and far away.



**Pā’ina
Nights**





**7 Reasons to Get Involved at Church Even
When Our Schedule Is Full**
by Britt Mooney Contributing Writer for
Crosswalk.com

1. Community and Fellowship

The Lord doesn't call us to live Christianity in isolation. We need community and fellowship. [Hebrews 10:24-25](#) emphasizes this: "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Gathering with other believers, we encourage and support one another.

God is within himself a relationship. The mystery of the [Trinity](#)—Father, Son, and [Holy Spirit](#) as one—reveals the importance of friendship. The only aspect God considered "not good" in the Garden of Eden was Adam being alone. Being made in the image of God, that perfect creation required Adam to have a relationship with someone like himself and yet distinct and complementary, Eve. Adam didn't need Eve because of sin. On the contrary, God designed them that way.

In the new covenant and the church, no part of the Body of Christ can say to another, "I don't need you" ([1 Corinthians 12:1](#)). This redemptive community reflects the original design—by the Spirit, we need one another because we've been redeemed. Our brothers and sisters in Christ are a spiritual family, more eternal than our blood relatives alone (although we hope they are saved, too).

Together, we combat loneliness and isolation, finding support for our spiritual growth into God's purpose for us.

2. Spiritual Growth

Active participation in church activities, such as Bible studies, sermons, and discussion groups, provides a structured environment for deepening our understanding of Scripture and Christian principles. This regular engagement with God's Word fosters a more profound spiritual maturity and a closer relationship with God.

[Colossians 3:16](#) highlights the importance of this mutual edification: “Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” Communal learning and teaching enrich our [faith](#). Through participating in church, we can learn from others and share our insights, creating a dynamic and supportive environment.

Teaching within the church is also a powerful tool for personal spiritual growth. Taking on teaching roles challenges us to study the Bible more diligently and clearly communicate our faith. This process not only strengthens our own understanding but also inspires and educates others within the community. Engaging in teaching transforms theological intellectualism into practical applications, making faith more relevant and actionable. The church community provides accountability and encouragement, essential components for spiritual growth. Fellow believers can offer support, guidance, and constructive feedback, helping individuals stay committed to their faith journey despite busy schedules.

3. A Space to Use Our Spiritual Gifts

Each of us possesses unique gifts bestowed by the Holy Spirit, intended to serve and edify the church community. Participating in church activities allows individuals to discover, hone, and employ these gifts for others' benefit and God's glory. Since God gave us [spiritual gifts](#) for Christ's Body, we can't find or develop them apart from the church.

A spiritual gift isn't a natural talent. God imparts supernatural abilities from the Spirit, beyond our human abilities, for mutual edification. These gifts, mentioned in [1 Corinthians 12:8-10](#), [Romans 12:6-8](#), and [Ephesians 4:11](#), include wisdom, knowledge, [faith](#), healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, interpretation of tongues, serving, teaching, encouragement, giving, leadership, and mercy. Each gift serves a unique purpose and

contributes to the unity and growth of the Christian community. Using these gifts effectively ministers to one another, build up the church, and advance God's kingdom.

[1 Peter 4:10](#) underscores this responsibility: “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.” This verse emphasizes that spiritual gifts are not meant to be kept idle but actively used to serve the church and its members.

Regular involvement in church offers practical opportunities to develop these gifts and find a deeper sense of our purpose. This active engagement also allows for mentorship and feedback from more experienced members, further refining and enhancing these abilities.

4. Worship & Praise

Spiritual disciplines find more power when done with others, especially corporate worship, [prayer](#), and praise.

[Matthew 18:20](#) emphasizes the power of gathering together: “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” God is always present everywhere, but Jesus manifests more in communal worship. When we unite in worship and prayer, we invite the Holy Spirit to move powerfully among us, bringing encouragement, healing, and spiritual growth.

[Psalm 133:1](#) further teaches how beautiful and strong unity can be: “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” This verse celebrates the harmony and blessing from believers living and worshipping together. The psalm compares our unity with the High Priest's [anointing oil](#). With Christ as our high priest, this represents the Holy Spirit's anointing upon us when we practice these disciplines. Jesus even teaches how God's answer becomes more sure when two or more agree in prayer ([Matthew 18:19](#)).

Participating in corporate worship allows us to join our voices in praise, lifting our hearts in

collective adoration of God. This shared experience enhances personal faith and can lead to profound spiritual encounters. Group prayer connects believers, allowing us to intercede for one another and share burdens.

Our full schedules shouldn't isolate us from the power and transformation available when we participate in corporate praise and prayer.

5. Service Opportunities

Serving others is a fundamental aspect of the Christian [faith](#), reflecting [Jesus](#)' teachings and actions. By participating in church-led service projects, we can impact our communities and embody Christ's love.

[James 2:17](#) emphasizes the importance of active faith: "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." Engaging in service opportunities, such as feeding the homeless, supporting local shelters, or participating in mission trips, brings this principle to life. It allows Christians to practice their faith in concrete, meaningful ways.

Involvement in service activities helps address pressing social issues and alleviates suffering. Many churches organize outreach programs that provide food, clothing, education, and medical care to the underserved. By contributing time and resources to these initiatives, we can help meet a community's physical and emotional needs. These opportunities provide personal growth and fulfillment. They encourage us to step outside our comfort zones and engage with diverse populations.

In addition, serving alongside fellow church members fosters a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose. It strengthens the bonds within the congregation and builds a supportive network of people committed to making a difference. This collective effort amplifies each person's contribution, showing the power of unified action.

6. A Reminder that God Is Our Source and Provision

Many times, our schedules become full because we try to provide for ourselves. Taking time to get involved in church reminds us that God is our source and provision, as we see in the [Sabbath](#) principles. Regular church attendance and participation reinforce the truth that our sustenance and well-being come from God, not from our efforts alone.

[Exodus 20:8-10](#) emphasizes the significance of the Sabbath: "[Remember the Sabbath](#) day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God." This commandment teaches the need to set aside time for rest and worship, acknowledging God's role as our provider. Under the New Covenant, we aren't bound by a specific day, but the deeper principle remains. By attending church, we intentionally take a break from our busy schedules to focus on worship and rejuvenation.

Involvement in church activities helps us recalibrate our priorities, ensuring that our relationship with God remains at the center of our lives. True rest and provision come from trusting in God rather than constantly striving on our own. Taking time for church fosters a healthier work-life balance. It provides an opportunity to disconnect from career pressures and reconnect with our faith community, family, and ourselves. A work-then-rest rhythm is essential for maintaining physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

7. The Great Commission

Jesus gives a universal command and mission in [Matthew 28:19-20](#): "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the [Holy Spirit](#), and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Attending church isn't the end goal. We are sent from the church community to the world. Active participation in church life teaches us how God sends us to others and enables us to engage in this crucial work.

Church involvement provides numerous opportunities to share the gospel and disciple others.

We can spread Christ's message to people who have not heard it through organized outreach programs, mission trips, and community events. These structured activities make it easier to find ways to witness.

God's family trains for discipleship, offering resources, education, and mentorship that equip believers to grow in their **faith** and to help others do the same. Sunday school classes, Bible study groups, and discipleship programs provide the tools and support for effective evangelism and spiritual mentorship.

The church community acts as an outpost of heaven, the kingdom culture here on earth. Church involvement allows us to model Christ-like behavior, showing the gospel by how we live instead of what we say. This visible testimony can inspire and encourage others to seek a relationship with Christ.



Britt Mooney lives and tells great stories. As an author of fiction and non fiction, he is passionate about teaching ministries and nonprofits the power of storytelling to inspire and spread truth. Mooney has a podcast called [Kingdom Over Coffee](#) and is a published author of *We Were Reborn for This: The Jesus Model for Living Heaven on Earth* as well as *Say Yes: How God-Sized Dreams Take Flight*. Crosswalk

Join us at The Plaza in Kaneohe



Prayer Group is in the Book of Mark. We invite you to join them and each week. Please note that it would be helpful if you would like to attend, that you let the church office know (808-261-0125) in case of cancellations or change of area that

the class will be held. Mahalo.

Note: No class on August 15th.



Bible Institute of Hawaii is offering a class here at KCC for the convenience of our Windward community to grow together with our neighbors in the Word. Hope you will consider joining us for this time. Register online with BIH

God's New Community: A Study of the Book of Ephesians Dr. Rick Bartosik

Ephesians is essential for every Christian and leader. James M. Boice calls it "a miniature doctrine of the church." In today's world, a sound doctrine of the church is crucial. Often, we think of the church as created and managed by us, rather than by God and for His glory. This verse-by-verse study of Ephesians will correct our view, helping us understand what the church is, why it exists, and how it should function.

The Apostle Paul shows how we were once dead in sin, living in darkness, and doomed to God's wrath. But God, in His love, saved us. Now, by His grace, we are citizens of His kingdom and members of His royal family. Together, we form a holy temple where God dwells by His Spirit, and we are called to live lives worthy of Him as His holy and beloved people.

NOTE: Highly recommended book: *The Message of Ephesians (Revised edition)* by John R. W. Stott. Bring your Bible and a notebook. Outlines and handouts will be provided.

**Administrative Fee: \$40 (Bring-A-Friend Free)
October 1 - November 19, 2024 (8 weeks)
Tuesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 pm in Room 3
In-person only @ Kailua Christian Church**

TRUSTEES NOTES

Members and Friends of KCC,

To date, the Continuous Building Maintenance Fund (CBMF) drive has received \$6,635.

Thank you for your generosity, especially in this time of increasing costs in groceries, utilities, health care and energy. Should you wish to support this CBMF drive, please annotate "CBMF" on your check.

Status of KCC Finances as of June 2024:

Income: \$ 58,271.36

Expenses: \$117,097.06

As the financial status shows, Expenses exceed Income by \$58,825.70. KCC has been operating at an average monthly deficit of \$9,804.28. KCC leadership (Council, Pastor, Trustees, Deacons) is considering options to eliminate this deficit by reducing the operating expenses and/or increasing revenues. We encourage you (members and friends of KCC) to submit ideas you may have to increase our revenue. It will really help us in our efforts to eliminate the deficit. Please submit your ideas via email to our Trustees Co-Chairpersons, Dean Wakuzawa, dean.wakuzawa@gmail.com or Reggie Yamada, ryamada49@gmail.com.

Special Mahalo:

Thank you to all the volunteers who did not hesitate to accept the responsibility for loving and caring for the church by caring for the yard. Thank you, Barney, Florence, Myra and Reggie! If you are able to volunteer your time in any capacity, please contact the Trustees.

God Bless You All!

Trustees



UCC Special Recognitions at the 'Aha Pae' Aina

There are 115 active congregations that make up the Hawaii Conference of the UCC. We celebrate these reasons together.

2024 Church Anniversaries

- **Wahiawa United Church of Christ** - 105 years!
- **Makiki Christian Church** - 120 years!
- **Hilo Coast United Church of Christ** - 130 years!
- **The First Chinese Church of Christ in Hawaii** - 145 years!
- **Kahakuloa Hawaiian Congregational United Church of Christ** - 145 years!
- **Nahiku Hawaiian Church** - 160 years!
- **Palapala Ho'omau Congregational** - 160 years!
- **Huialoha Congregational Church** - 165 years!
- **Puka'ana Congregational Church** - 175 years!
- **Kana'ana Hou-Siloama UCC** - 185 years!
- **Kahikuonalani Church UCC** - 190 years!
- **Wai'oli Hui'ia Church** - 190 years!
- **Haili Congregational Church** - 200 years!
- **Kahikolu Congregational Church** - 200 years!

2024 Clergy Anniversaries

- **Emerson Smith** - 80 years!
- **Norman Jackson** - 70 years!
- **Jack Belsom** - 55 years!
- **Philip Mark** - 50 years!
- **Wayne Ibara** - 35 years!
- **Caroline Miura** - 35 years!
- **Kevin Page** - 35 years!
- **George Scott** - 30 years!
- **Alexander Tychkin** - 30 years!
- **Nofotolu Alo** - 25 years!
- **Sharon Inake** - 25 years!
- **Kyle Lovett** - 25 years!
- **Jihey Roach** - 20 years!
- **Anne Troy** - 20 years!
- **Brian Welsh** - 20 years!

CONGRATULATIONS UCC OHANA!

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

**MONTH OF SEPTEMBER
 SUPPORT OUR
 ORGANIZATION
 TO FUNDRAISE
 EVEN FASTER!**



Organization Kailua
 Christian Church

Our Organization
 Code is 78524

HOW TO HELP:

- 1) Show your Maika'i Card and make a donation to our organization (up to \$249 per person) at any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms checkout from September 1 - 30 2024.
- 2) Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match all donations up to a total of at least \$300,000 for all organizations combined.

In an effort to support and encourage non-profits in our community, Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will give us any donation sent for our ministry plus make an additional donation to our organization! Please make a donation for KCC at any Foodland, Sack N Save, or Foodland Farms checkout, and Foodland and help us continue our efforts to be of service to our community and beyond. MAHALO NUI LOA!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT!

**KING'S
 COMPANY –
 JR. CHURCH
 MINISTRY**



We are seeking leaders to sign up and provide worship for the children on Sunday mornings. A team will coordinate this ministry on the second through last Sundays of each month during our 10:00 a.m. service. Communion Sunday (first Sun. of each month) will not have a children's service so we can encourage families to receive Communion and worship together. A sign up sheet is available in the back of the sanctuary to sign up. Curriculum for this ministry is provided for you. Call Pastor, Pie Pie, or the office for more information and to sign up. Mahalo?

