

# Waves of Faith

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



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2 Thessalonians 1:4

“Therefore we speak of you with pride among the churches of God for your steadfastness, your unflinching endurance and patience, and your firm faith in the midst of all the persecution, and crushing distress which you endure”

Aloha KCC Ohana,

As I reflect on 2 Thessalonians 1:4, which commends the endurance and faith of the church amid persecutions and trials, I am filled with gratitude and excitement for the journey we are on together. We are witnessing a season of extraordinary growth and vibrancy within our congregation, and it is clear that the Holy Spirit is moving powerfully among us. Our new programs, Pā ‘ina Night and the Service Learning Community, are not just initiatives; they are vibrant expressions of the positive energy and joy that define KCC.

To those who have been with KCC for years, well done and don't give up! We are beginning to see the fruits of the Spirit moving within us. In the past month alone, we have experienced a 250% increase in visitors and a 14% rise in regular attendance by new visitors. This growth is a testament to your endurance and faith. Your commitment is bearing fruit, and we are on the brink of even greater things.

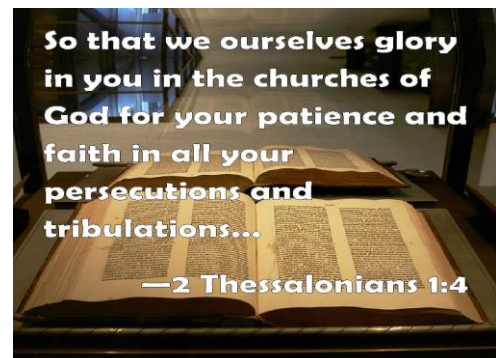
For those who used to attend KCC but are no longer active, we extend a heartfelt invitation to return and celebrate these successes with us. Your presence and participation have always been valued, and we miss you. God is making all things new here, and we would love for you to be part of this journey once more.

To our friends who have not yet visited KCC, we welcome you with open arms. There is a tangible sense of renewal and hope in our church, and we are eager to share it with you. Come and see what God is doing here – you will find a community ready to embrace you and walk with you in faith.

While we have much to celebrate, we also recognize that there is still much to be done. Although the new programs are fully funded by generous grants, sustaining our standard operational finances is crucial for the continuation of our momentum. We must continue to patiently and faithfully endure, following God's call out of the dark times and into His marvelous light.

Together, let us keep pressing forward with courage, trusting that God, who has begun this good work in us, will bring it to completion. Let us rejoice in the present blessings, remain steadfast in our mission, and look forward with hope to what lies ahead.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Irene



**DEACONS CORNER****Buckle Up**

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens— Eccl 3:1

Now is an exciting time to be participating in the life of Kailua Christian Church. I liken it to being on a carnival ride. No, not the merry-go-round. More like the roller coaster.

Our ride started with the acceptance of our three interns into the Service Learning Community Program and the ensuing preparations for these three young women. Clearing and cleaning of the upstairs rooms – and voila! Like magic - empty storage spaces are transformed into spacious bedrooms. Just as the excitement continues to grow as the roller coaster approaches the apex, so does the anticipation for the arrivals of Avery, Darby, and Eliana. Today we are now in the twists and turns of the roller coaster ride.

Under the guidance of Pastor Irene the interns participate in every aspect of KCC. They participate in the worship service, learn how to operate the computers, help out the Kings Company program, and will eventually preach their own sermons. Our interns also help to plan, prepare (aka cook), and participate in Pa'ina Nights. And they visit the Homeless shelters while forming relationships and learning Hawaiian culture. In addition, every Wednesday there is a guest pastor who gives a presentation to the interns sharing their own personal journey about how and why they ended up where they are. Church members are also invited to these very interesting and informative presentations.

Having an exchange of ideas is another benefit of hosting interns. At a recent deacon meeting Avery, Darby, and Eliana shared observations, provided feedback and also shared suggestions on how to improve our services. We need these new ideas. We need to remain open minded to the constantly changing world and the fresh ideas of the younger generation. The older folks

know what has been tried and what worked and what didn't. But the world is constantly evolving and what worked then may not work today and what didn't work then might be appropriate today. Because the world is different now. One of the great advantages of interfacing with the energetic youth of today is that they come unbiased and provide fresh ideas for the current world as it is today.

The opportunity to energize and revitalize Kailua Christian Church is now so I encourage you to jump in the seat of this roller coaster and buckle up if you haven't done so already.

If you would like to help support our young interns there is a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary listing grocery items they would appreciate.

“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

Love and blessings,  
Debbie Fong

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

~ Terumi and Rev. Howard Yoshida  
 ~ Nathan Kohashi  
 ~ Jean Kanazawa ~ Tim Ishihara  
 ~ Gary & Susan Morita ~ Dean's friends  
 ~ Jennie Lee ~ Damien Wong  
 ~ Lynne Nakano ~ Cindy, Myra's Neighbor  
 ~ Carrie Grable ~ Henry Tom's Ohana  
 ~ John Sakamoto ~ Lia Lau  
 ~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann  
 ~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Harrison Lum  
 ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Ed & Noelani Jai  
 ~ Winchell & Lily Lee ~ Richard Texiera  
 ~ Karen Shimizu ~ Dennis Jinnohara  
 ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health  
 ~ 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 risk families  
~ Prayers for all our Worship Team



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



Sarah Weible  
Aaron Tanaka  
Justin Lau  
Dennis Fong  
Patti Myers  
Larry Siu  
Kale Peters  
Jenai Nakasone  
Alianna Ramos  
Karen Miyahira

Malia Hagmann  
Jane Tengan  
Madeline St. John  
Bruce Lee  
Harry Imai  
Daniel Fong  
Susan White  
Lori Watanabe  
Rebecca Weible

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**



Dan & April Jessee



**TRUSTEES NOTE**

Members and Friends of KCC,

Hallelujah! To date, the Continuous Building Maintenance Fund (CBMF) drive has received \$5,535. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Kailua Christian Church (KCC) is truly blessed with having members and friends like you expressing your love of and commitment to God through KCC. Much mahalo to you all! A friendly reminder: If you would like to support this CBMF drive, please annotate "CBMF" on your check.

Special Mahalo:

A special thank you is extended to Aaron Tanaka who spearheaded the effort to ensure that the facilities were clean, safe and secure for the Service Learning Community (SLC) Interns. He managed

to acquire donations and volunteers to help with cleaning the windows, walls and floors, and installing security screen doors, cameras, locks, and lighting. His relentless efforts and dedication in getting the job done were truly inspiring. Aaron, congratulations on a job well done!

Before all this could happen, the second-floor classrooms had to be cleared of all the unused/unwanted items and the accumulation of junk. This task was spearheaded by Matt Wong. Matt and his church youth group volunteered their services and got rid of a lot of old furnishings, debris and rubbish, which involved numerous trips to the dump. Without this huge undertaking, getting the rooms ready to be converted from classrooms to bedrooms would not have been possible. Way to go, Matt!

All of this could not have been possible without the guidance and leadership of Reverend Irene Willis Hassan, and the handyman knowledge and skills displayed by Hamza Hassan on the repairs and renovations of the facilities. Additionally, Pastor Irene took on the task of furnishing and decorating the rooms and ensuring that the interns would have the necessary utensils, dishes, furniture, and appliances for the kitchen. Much Mahalo to Pastor Irene and Hamza!

Status of KCC Finances as of May 2024:

Income: \$ 44,536.28  
Expenses: \$ 99,824.88

Please note that the SLC program and the Paina Night dinner church are being funded by grants acquired by the hard work of Pastor Irene and supported by KCC volunteers and our Seminary interns. Accordingly, the income and expenses for these programs are not included in the KCC financial status above. Special Funds (for a specific/specified purpose) such as the CBMF are also not included.

God Bless You All!  
Trustees



**NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA**

(Angels in the Works for God)

**Wellness Support Group**

**LEARNING IS LIFELONG!**

**August 3 (1st Sat), 10 - 11 am Rooms 3 & 4 and Zoom (Please note date change.)**

“Anatomy of a Cyber Attack and Cyber Security Best Practices” will be presented by our own **Aaron Tanaka**, who is a retired **Professor, who served as the Program Technical Coordinator for Computer, Security & Networking Technologies (CSNT) at Honolulu Community College for 35 years.** His credentials and certifications are amazing. **Target Audience: Seniors**

Invite your friends and join us for **Aaron’s** educational and practical Cyber Awareness topic, based on decades of experience and research working in this field of high national security interest. Light refreshments to follow the presentation.

**Other Na Anela Dates to Reserve on Your Calendar:**

**Sep 28 (4<sup>th</sup> Sat) – Finding Joy Amidst Chronic Pain, Aianna (Pie Pie) Wong**, Registered Behavioral Therapist for Autistic Children; sanctuary

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

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**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.**

**July 2024** classes can be found at:

<https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/s/courses>. Register directly online. **For questions, please contact **Kaui Asing (808) 547-8092** or [kasing@stfrancishawaii.org](mailto:kasing@stfrancishawaii.org).**

**Individual Classes:**

Jul 12: Fri, 10 – 11:30 am; Hands-on Bathing for the Family Caregivers (in-person class)

**Weekly Session Classes:**

Jul 01 – 31: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:15 pm; Zumba by Frances

Jul 02 – 30: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Jul 06 – 27: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Francis

Jul 15 – 28: Mon, 8 – 8:45 am; Big Moves! Monday (focus on people with Parkinsons); no classes 7/1 & 7/8

Jul 17 – 31: Wed, 8 – 8:45 am; Empower You!; no classes 7/3 & 7/10

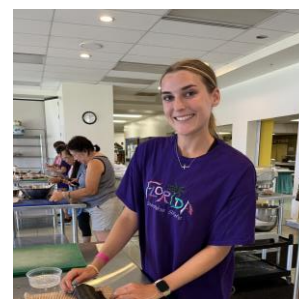
*Note: In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kupuna Village in Liliha. Contact me at [yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com) or call (808) 348-2297 if you have questions. Please invest your time and energy in any one of these “mostly” free and informative classes.*

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



**REASON TO CELEBRATE**

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





**Pā'ina  
Nights**



*Special guest:  
Aolani Silva*

**Kahu Rennie Mau on Wed.Night Pastors' Sharing event.- 7 p.m.**



Christian in Hawaii, and I can't wait to keep learning during the rest of the summer!

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**Darby**

I can't believe it's been a month already! Kailua Christian Church community has made an incredible impact by being a beacon of love from day one! We have completed a lot of our bucket list items because of your intentional care.

As an intern, we were given this first month as time to understand the history and culture of Hawaii. We've had a variety of experiences ranging from Holoholo days, readings, weekly speakers, and so much more! I can't wait to keep learning!

The partnership with IHS that KCC has created is an amazing opportunity for me, as a future pastor and/or chaplain to have a transformative experience and practice my faith in action! I praise God everyday for this program. Let's see what He does next!!!

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**Avery**

I have had an amazing first few weeks here at KCC! I am still blown away by the kindness and hospitality this church has welcomed us interns with. I really appreciate the intentionality this program was designed with and am so grateful for the clear attention to detail. Learning about Hawaii's history and culture has been incredible and has definitely given me a new perspective on Christianity and evangelism. I cannot wait to continue implementing everything I have learned so far into my ministry!



**JUNE REFLECTIONS from our Interns**



**Eliana**

I've been really enjoying my time here so far! I've been so blessed by the kindness and generosity of this congregation and have learned a lot through the intentionality of the program. Through hearing more about the history of Hawaii I've come to really appreciate the diversity of cultures and experiences here. The people I've met at this church, the IHS shelters, and through Wednesday night dinners have already been showing me what it looks like to be a faithful

## Join us at The Plaza in Kaneohe



### CONGRATULATIONS

**TO** Pastor Irene Willis Hassan for being installed as the President of the Oahu Association Board of Directors of the HCUCC. Starting July first, Pastor Irene took over this position from Pastor Wayne Ibara, pastor of Makiki Christian Church.



The Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ (HCUCC) is made up of 118 (est) Local Churches, 5 Associations, 6 Islands, 1 Conference. Churches around the state of Hawaii: Hawaii Islands(28), Lanai (1), Maui (23), Molokai (5), and Oahu (48). There are five Associations in the Hawaii Conference - Association of Hawaiian Evangelical Churches, (AHEC) Hawaii Island Association, Kauai Association, Oahu Association and Aha O Na Mokuuni O Maui, Molokai, a Me Lanai.

### OAUCC CHURCHES

#### UCC Churches with Membership and Standing in the O'ahu Association:

Amataga Fou  
Bethel of Amazing Grace  
Bread of Life Church

Central Union Church  
Church of the Crossroads  
Church of the New Testament  
Chuukese Congregational Church of Christ  
Community Church of Honolulu  
Cup of Freedom UCC  
Epenesa Fou CC Samoan Ch, HI  
Filipino UCC  
First Chinese Church of Christ  
First Samoan CC Church in HI - Hakimo  
Hawai'i Kai UCC  
Honolulu Cosmopolitan UCC  
Honolulu Marshallese Ministry  
Kailua Christian Church  
Kanana Fou Church  
Kaunakapili Church  
Kokokahi UCC  
Kosrae Honolulu Congregational Church  
Makiki Christian Church  
Malamalama Ole Alofa Tunoa CCC UCC  
Manoa Valley Church  
Moanalua Community Church  
Nu'u Lotu  
Nu'uuanu Cong'l Church  
Pearl City Community Church  
Samoa CC Church - Honolulu  
Samoa Ch of HI, LMS Nanakuli  
Savali Ole Filemu (Message of Peace)  
Tuvalu Fou Church of Hawaii  
United Church of Christ Judd Street  
Wahiawa UCC  
Waialua UCC  
Waianae Samoan Church  
Waiokoala Cong'l Church  
Waipahu UCC  
Windward Samoan CCC

#### UCC Churches with Associate Membership in the O'ahu Association:

*(Churches with standing in AHEC)*

Hau'ula Congregational Church  
Ka Hana O Ke Akua Church  
Kahikuonalani UCC  
Kawaiaha'o Church  
Lili'uokalani Protestant Church

#### Churches in the O'ahu Association Exploring Affiliation with the UCC:

Chuukese Christian Church  
The Giving Circle Church  
Nikitu Iotek Church  
Vaipuna O Le Ola

The Oahu Association is called to be a community of churches and authorized ministers covenanted in Jesus Christ to celebrate and proclaim the reign of God in word and deed. Through the leading of God's Spirit, we help nurture and sustain local churches—laity, clergy, and other authorized ministers in the proclamation of the Reign of God in Jesus Christ.

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 Website: [www.kailuachristianchurch.org](http://www.kailuachristianchurch.org)  
 Rev. Irene Willis Hassan, Senior Pastor

MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

**SUPPORT OUR  
 ORGANIZATION  
 TO FUNDRAISE  
 EVEN FASTER!**



Make a donation to KCC at any Foodland, Sack N Save, or Foodland Farms checkout, and Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will make a donation to our organization, too!

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 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.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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**Celebrating the  
 Blessing!**



We celebrate with Dr. J.R. Cuevas who was officially installed as the new Lead Pastor of Kaimuki Christian Church as of June. J.R., whose name stands for Julian Robert (despite many people mistakenly thinking he's a "Junior"), has been a valued faculty member of the Bible Institute of Hawaii for several years. He graciously came to do pulpit supply here at KCC when we were without a settled pastor and he was an encourager all throughout the struggles we encountered during the Covid challenges. We thank God for blessing our brothers and sisters at Kaimuki Christian Church with such a humble and gracious shepherd.

Check out the Summer series of classes and seminars that Bible Institute of Hawaii has on their website. [Biblehawaii.org](http://Biblehawaii.org) or call (808)595-4700.