

Waves of Faith

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



APRIL 2016

Volume 31

Issue 04

In the Interim

Whenever we think of “vision,” we are thinking about the future. “What is God’s vision for KCC?” You have heard me ask that many times. That vision becomes the “standard for success” by which we assess the ministry of the church. Some of you worked hard at the study on the beatitudes, and we have wonderful elements of a possible vision.

Beginning April 5 and 6, we will begin a five-week process called “People of Salt and Light.” The sessions focus on

- 1) The Blessings of the Reign of God
- 2) A Church Living for the World
- 3) Jesus’ Vision of Right Relationships
- 4) A Model for Praying and Acting
- 5) Pulling Our Learnings Together

Copies of the study material will be distributed to everyone so that they may participate in one of the studies at the church, meet with a small group on their own, or even study on their own. The Tuesday meetings will be at 7:00 p.m., and the Wednesday sessions will be at 9:00 a.m. Each session will last about 90 minutes, and those who worked on the Beatitudes will be pleased to know that we have all sessions available and that these sessions don’t involve as much background. We will gather the learning from each group or person who submits it to us.

The key inputs to this vision are the deep hopes and aspirations of the people of God (the congregation) shared and tested with each other

and in the light of Scripture, guided and inspired by

the Holy Spirit. This is a prayer-full process! It will provide opportunities to talk, share, test, hope and imagine. The result should be a description of what future success looks like—being faithful to God and fruitful in our life and mission.

The next step is grounding that vision in reality, the current situation, the challenges and opportunities that we cannot ignore as we look to the future. The Council, Trustees and Deacons will focus on these, but those named challenges don’t become the vision. They are the current situation, not the vision.

Planning for that future comes when we bring both of those elements together. The future shape of the church and its ministry will flow from that interaction. Now we focus on what it means to really BE the church. Please plan to join in one of the studies or to participate with your own group or on your own. During worship we will share a bit of that focus and learning. Join us for the faithful work of discerning God’s future for KCC.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Jack E. Belsom
Jack E. Belsom, Interim Pastor



“LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE.”**MODERATOR’S NOTES**

Inevitably, during a conversation about the current state of our church, the question of growing the church comes up. Sometimes, it is coming from a financial perspective, “the church needs more income to support its programs”, sometimes it comes from the perspective of manpower, “our members are getting older and are no longer able to contribute to the functioning of the church, and we need new members to help us”.

If we ask ourselves how we want to grow the church it leads to some interesting answers; more contemporary music to attract younger people, a choir producing beautiful music to inspire, a fiery pastor whose sermons motivate and the list goes on. We need only look at the successful mega-churches for examples.

Should the question really be what the purpose of the church is? If we start with that question we might answer our own question of how to grow the church. If the answer is to have as many members as possible, I guess it would lead us to some of the solutions mentioned above. If our answer is to provide a community in which people could live out of their faith as expressed in the Bible and Jesus Christ, it might lead us to solutions that are not quite as evident. I believe we have a core membership that is living this life in our church community in a way that visitors can readily notice, feel and appreciate. The embodiment of those Christian values, and here I need to be clear that there is a difference between values and rules, when experienced, leaves a longer lasting impression than high production value worship services. Having said that, I do understand that individuals in a congregation are at different places in their spiritual journey and continued exposure to a Christian Community that embodies the values they have acquired through Bible study and examples of other congregants can be transformative for them.

In the process of trying to understand where God wants KCC to be, we are looking at the stories of

our members’ experiences at KCC. These stories exemplify the behaviors and qualities of individuals that have kept them at our church through the years as they and the church have gone through

many trials and joys. I have to believe that these qualities, learned from the Bible and demonstrated by their actions are what God wants our church to be. With those values and commitments as a foundation, KCC can grow.

--Roy Yamauchi †

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

~ April Jessee’s father
~ George Nakamura
~ Gerald Pang

~ Shane Shiroma
~ Greg Yamaguchi
~ Lowell’s Relative
~ Lisa & Michael Obrien’s mom
~ Kevin Sasaki
~ Doctors in general

Rev. David and Kirsten Turner on the damage of their home and property during the high surf and the recovery from this challenge.

Our deepest sympathies go out to member, Pamela Morikawa, Michelle Ramos Family, and the grieving families of Pamela’s three brothers who have passed away within the last six months. Please keep the families in your prayers as they adjust to these losses.

The Edmond family as their infant daughter goes through numerous surgeries to survive and function towards a normal lifestyle.

The Transition Team as they proceed towards helping us find out where God might be leading us, who we are, and preparing our Search committee who will help us find our new Pastor.

DEACONS MESSAGE



As a brand new deacon, I am learning what the deacons do and what they are responsible for and I'm finding that it is quite a bit of work and responsibility. It includes responsibility for the spiritual health of the members of KCC; the administration of the benevolence fund; prayers, notes and visitation to the sick; creation and fostering of Undershepherd Groups; updating and maintaining KCC membership; greeting newcomers; preparing and administering the sacraments of the church; and notifying the membership of prayer requests, deaths, memorial services, congregational meetings and other significant events at KCC. The deacons also recently assumed responsibility for after service refreshments. So, if you have needs or concerns in any of the areas listed above, contact your deacon.

Bryan Gomes and I have been assigned the responsibility for Membership and Undershepherd Groups. This includes updates to the membership rosters and the assignment of people within KCC to an Undershepherd Group. The focus of this newsletter article will be on the status of the membership and active participants at KCC.

It appears that the membership and friends of KCC have declined over the past several years. More than half of the very active members and leadership of KCC in 2003 are no longer members or active at KCC today. Of the people listed in the 2003 KCC Directory, less than 15% of us currently attend regularly or otherwise participate in the church at KCC. Of the 50 to 80 current regular worship service attendees, about one third to one half are quite elderly (i.e., over eighty years old). Many of the rest of us qualify for AARP (i.e., over fifty years old). A handful of younger families also attend regularly.

Some of the reasons for these changes include changes to society that have affected most if not all of the traditional denominations in the U.S. including the UCC. At KCC people are getting older and moving in with relatives or to care homes or passing away. Others have moved

away from Kailua and still others have other personal reasons for not

going to any church at all. It is also apparent that many of our members and friends have moved on to other churches because of differences they have with the direction of KCC. Recently KCC has not been able to attract very many new members or attendees either.

KCC hopes to address some of these concerns and trends as we go through this transition period. The council and transition committees are in the process of performing a survey and evaluating our church in hopes of forming a new vision for the future of KCC. They will be implementing a program called "Listening to the Spirit: Assessing the Now". Please be ready to respond to the survey and assist these committees by giving them your candid comments in a timely manner. Please know that your input is very important.

Paul Grable, Deacon

Membership/Undershepherds



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Matsy Naito
- George Nakamura
- Lorraine Santos
- John Halloran
- Kay Teruya
- Micah Turner
- Pauline Vilorio
- Winnie Nakamura
- Vernon Pang
- Larry Takuma
- James Todd
- Michael Sakaba
- Emma & Briana (Lau)
- Cleo Nham
- Carl Takahashi
- Kammy Grable
- Hazel Chow
- Derrick Teruya
- Corey Nemoto



- Jared Higashi
- Jennie Lee
- Fred Eberlein
- Emily Peters
- April Jessee
- Dan Jessee
- Wilma Chung

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Lowell & Myrtle Terada
 Alan & Linda Umetsu
 Cary & Karen Miyahara
 Dick & Jane Tengan

MISSIONS NEWS



Bible Institute of Hawaii has included an additional class to the Spring quarter. Rev. Howard Yoshida will facilitate this session which begins on April 6 and May 25. (Please check schedule of individual classes.) The class, Focus on Jesus, Practical Applications of Our Beliefs will be on Wed. 12-1 p.m. at the First Hawaiian Center, Downtown. Check out the hallway bulletin board for a complete description of classes offered and their locations and time.



MAHALO KCC for your generous giving to the ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS) Offering for 2016. To date we have received \$970. Thank you for your kind support.



MISSION OUTREACH - Reaching out in Love

Angie Lee, daughter of Winchell and Lily Lee will be traveling to Uganda with the Ministry of Loving One By One Ministries. This ministry provides practical care, such as food, housing, medical assistance, and educational training for refugees and homeless children in Uganda. Angie will be going with a group from South Bay Community Church, (located in Torrance CA), on June 29 through July 15, 2016. A portion of the Garage Sale proceeds will be designated to this mission effort. It was great to have Angie share during announcements on Easter Sunday. Our prayers go with her as she shares a little bit of Aloha to the children in Uganda.



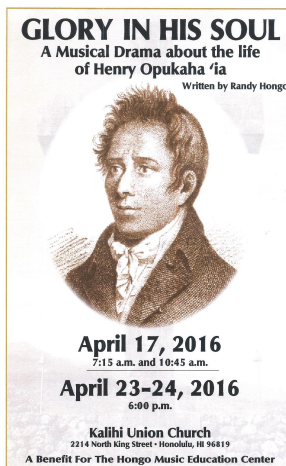
KCC Transitional Housing Ministry Update

We are delighted with the progress and development of our guest family as they strive for

their goal to obtain more long term housing. Dolly has been working and is now eligible for some good options of Transitional housing programs. Koryne continues to do well as a Jr. in high school and makes wonderful mochi and cookies in their new toaster oven. Please keep them in your prayers.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

April 17, 23, 24, 2016



Come enjoy this story sharing on the life of Henry Opukahaia, one of the first Hawaiian Christians who inspired missionaries to come to Hawaii.

Admission is free. A love offering will be taken for the Hongo Music Education Center.

Members of KUC will portray characters in Henry's life and tell his story in 18 scenes. There are three original songs and two hymns, to be sung by soloists and a choral ensemble, and a hula depicting Henry's prayer of salvation.

Let's support our good friends, Randy & Gay Hongo! For more information call 261-0125.

NA ANELA SUPPORT GROUP

Saturday, April 23, 2016



Our regular support group meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. in Room 3 and will end around 10:15; this is the time we can share updates on our health journey/feedback on medical practitioners and request special prayers from each other.

Thanks to Susan Morita, we can experience a valuable learning workshop on reducing our risk of falling. Come join us and have fun learning! Special guest speakers, David and Anita Nakamaejo, owners of Comforting Hands Senior Care, focus on "Compassionate, Committed, Caring", as we age in our own home.

10:30-1130: "Falling is Not a Form of Exercise"

This fall prevention workshop is for older adults and family-caregivers. Do you know the simple steps you can take to reduce your risk of falling? Come to the presentation and learn the importance of having your pharmacist or primary care provider review your medications. When was the last time you had your eyes checked? Having your eyes checked annually is of utmost importance.

Did you know that throw rugs and also called “trip rugs?” Home safety is important, come and learn the simple and quick things you can do around your home to reduce your risk of falling.

What type of exercise do you do? Did you know that Tai Chi is one of the most effective exercises that can reduce your risk of falling? A short Tai Chi demonstration will be done at the workshop. Come to the workshop and learn the four things you can do to reduce your risk of falling.

Light refreshments (donations are welcomed) to be served immediately after the workshop.

Mahalo and God bless!

Myra



Pohai Nani Fellowship

KCC GARAGE SALE

Saturday, April 9, 2016
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Have you done your Spring Cleaning yet? Save your “good junk” for our annual Garage Sale on Sat. April 9. Donations may be brought starting **Sunday, April 3 and ongoing through Thurs. April 7. Drop offs are welcome between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

Lots of help is needed during the week before the sale. Come and enjoy the fellowship! Lunch will be provided. Workers are also needed for the day of the sale. Please sign up for a shift on the bulletin board in the church hallway.

We also welcome donations for the Snack Bar...cookies, mochi, Spam musubi, sushi, etc. Please see Myrtle or Joan for more details.

If you are thinking of decluttering your life – we have an idea for you. Would you like to donate one of your treasures for our red carpet table? This table could consist of something that you’ve kept

that really doesn’t fit into your lifestyle anymore. Why not make someone else happy and be appreciative of your kindness.

We have plans for our proceeds as part of our profits will go into updating our sanctuary. Surely we could all give something that would help to enhance our place of worship where we are fed spiritually every Sunday with His words.

A portion of the proceeds will also go to ministry outreach which you can read more about in the Missions article of this Newsletter edition.

So as you go through your possessions say, “thank you” for all that you have been blessed with and “Let it Go”. You will be happier as you’ve decluttered in a spiritual way.

TRUSTEE’S TIDBITS



The Trustees would like to thank all who came out to our first all church clean-up for 2016 on Saturday, March 19th. We had a good turnout of members and friends. Members from the Chuukese Congregational Christian Church (4C’s) also joined us in this day of cleaning our place of worship. It was a great time to not only maintain our facilities, but to fellowship with others. For those that were unable to come, please do not fret. We will have more clean up days scheduled later in the year.

During March, we also purchased a new oven for the kitchen as the old one was beyond repair. Please go by the kitchen to see it. The ovens get plenty of use with the different events that take place throughout the year.

Two new smoke detectors were also purchased to replace broken alarms.

The Trustees continue to look after the grounds and finances of KCC. If you have any questions or concerns about KCC, please see one of our 8 trustees.

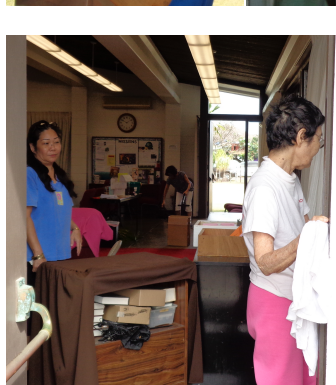
Love in Christ!

Your Trustees

Karel Ling, Susan Morita, Vernon Pang, Joan Sakaba, Shane Soma Lowell Terada, Dean Wakuzawa.



holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people." Philemon 4-7



Thanksgiving and Prayer

"I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his

VISION CONFERENCE - SAT, MAY 14, 2016

What is God calling us to be and do in this time and place as we look to the future? That is THE QUESTION. We will work together to discern an answer during a Vision Conference at the church Saturday, May 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. At that time, we hope as many members as possible will participate.

We will bring together the results of the two Bible Studies — "Beatitudes" and "People of Salt and Light." The Council will bring a list of realities for the church to consider—realities that we cannot ignore as we look to the future. That will lead us to set the priorities that will be important to be addressed in the future with the leadership of the next pastor.

A small group will write your work up in a way that is both short and compelling. The vision

should express what Kailua Christian Church believes God is calling us to be and do in this time and place as we look to the future.

Save the date: Saturday, May 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to discern with others God’s vision.

Some of the HIM Highlighted speakers will be shared on DVD during the Sunday School hour (8:45 to 9:45 a.m.) in the near future. Watch for bulletin inserts for more details.

HIM 2016

The Hawaiian Islands Ministries annual conference is one of the greatest things to happen in Hawaii. Thanks to the skilled and dedicated leadership of Rev. Dan Chun and his wife Pam, this conference is unequalled as far as Christian conferences go in the U.S., per several key speakers. This is a comment that I’ve also heard repeated in the past. Here is a summary of what I gained this year.

Keynote speaker Mike Pilavachi: Learn to listen to God’s voice and do whatever it is he tells you to do. It may not make sense, because we may not recognize his voice. However, obedience to God is the heart of Christianity.

Workshop speaker Paul Sheppard: Strong faith can be developed at any age or stage in our lives. Concentrate on what God has told you to do. Celebrate what God has brought you through.

Workshop speaker Jim Burns: Bring honor and security to your home. Do this by speaking the Blessing to your children, “May the Lord bless and keep you, may his face shine upon you”, “I am so honored to be your”, “I love you and I’m proud of you.”, “I will never leave you”, etc. Be the Blessing, Believe the Blessing, and celebrate the Blessing. Create Rites of Passage for every year of age for your children.

Workshop speaker Meredith Miller: Different way of teaching Sunday School for today’s children. Consider using a God centered curriculum. Focus on introducing children to a living God who loves them and likes them.

June Tom

KCC SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Date:	Adults	Children (under 12)	Visitors
02/28	64	08	00
03/06	75	12	01
03/13	60	07	00
03/20	67	12	00
03/27		109	24
05			

COUNCIL NEWS

Council has accepted the resignation of Rebecca Weible as Youth Worker. As Rebecca shared with the congregation at Easter, she needs to focus more on her studies. We encourage you to keep Rebecca in your prayers and thank God for the great time she shared with the youth.

Council has approved the action of seeking a new Youth worker and efforts will begin through the Coconut wireless and other church connections. If you are aware of potential candidates, please contact Patti Myers or Council for further action.

We are also saddened by the resignation of Robert St. John as Council Clerk. As more expectations were set upon him at work unfortunately he will not be able to continue his duties as clerk. Council is in the process of seeking a new clerk.

KING’S COMPANY Children’s Ministry welcomes leaders and volunteers who have a heart for children and want to share the love of Jesus with them! See Patti for more information.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



03 – Sun. Communion Sunday. Joint worship

celebration KCC &

Four C Church.

Set Up for Garage Sale. Donations received. http://www.churchart.com/Subscriber/ViewImages.aspx?keywords=&entry_date=&image_type=&topic_id=238&image_source_id=&page=19-no

05 – Tues. Tues. Evening Bible Study People of Salt and Light, 7:00 p.m. through the month ending May 3.

Set Up for Garage Sale. Donations received.

06 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, People of Salt and Light, 9:00 a.m. through the month ending May 4.

Set Up for Garage Sale. Donations received.

07 – Thurs. Set Up for Garage Sale. Last day to receive donations.

09 – Sat. Garage Sale, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

10 – Sun. Deacons Meeting following worship.

15 – Fri. Transitional Housing Mtg., 9:30 a.m.

17 – Sun. Transition Team Mtg. after worship Hongo Musical 7:15 and 10:45 a.m. @ KUC

23 – Sat. Men’s Fellowship, 8:00 a.m. Na Anela Support Group, Special guest speaker, Caring Hands Hawaii. Hongo Musical, 6:00 p.m. at KUC.

24 – Sun. Four C/Christian Endeavor, 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. use of KCC.

Hongo Musical, 6:00 p.m. at KUC.

27 – Wed. Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

WORSHIP LEADER

Patti Myers

AUDIO

Jane Masuno
Barney Pilla

USHERS/GREETER

Gary Nham & Grace Myers

VISUAL

Saeko Yoshida
Debbie Fong

DEACON GREETER

Sharlene Yamauchi

LIGHTS & SCREEN

June Tom



PIANO & ORGAN

Jenna Han & Ruth Masuno

CHILD CARE Carol Soma , Coordinator

03 – Susan Morita, Carol Soma, Mia Watanabe

10 – Debbie Glenn, Jennifer Pang, Grace Glenn

17 – Kristin Khem, Carol and Cera Soma

24 – Lara Higashi, Susan St. John, Emily Pang

FLOWERS

03 – Blanche Keahi

10 – Mel & June Tom

17 – Richard & Alice Esaki

24 – Dr. Gary & Susan Morita



KING’S COMPANY

Sharlene Yamauchi

AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS:

(Deacon Group: Sharon Mon)

Any refreshments offered for Sunday mornings during the hospitality hour will be appreciated. Please bring them into the kitchen that morning so

the group can prepare it to be enjoyed after the worship service. Mahalo for your kind support and generous donations each week as we continue to share in this special time of fellowship. This is a great opportunity to meet and greet newcomers, catch up with old friends, and make new ones.

MAHALO FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT!

Kailua Christian Church (UCC)
317 Manono St. Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Ph: (808) 261-0125 fax: (808) 262-8457
Email: kcc-ucc@hawaiiantel.net
Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Jack Belsom, Interim Pastor

Today 4/3, we begin accepting donations of items for the sale. Mahalo for your kind support!

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SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016

~ Deacons Meeting following worship.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016

~ Transition Team Meeting following worship.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
KAILUA HI
PERMIT NO. 568

Return service requested

PEOPLE OF SALT AND LIGHT

(5 Week Study Series)

Tuesday Evenings – 7:00 p.m.

April 5, 12, 19, 26, & May 3, 2016

Wednesday Mornings – 9:00 a.m.

April 6, 13, 20, 27, & May 4, 2016

Please obtain a study guide on Sun. morning
or by calling the church office 261-0125.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2016

~ Communion Sunday.

~ Joint Worship celebration
with Four C Church.

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**PREPARATION WEEK
FOR KCC GARAGE SALE**

SUNDAY, APRIL 3 THROUGH APRIL 8

Sign up to help during shifts available for the Garage Sale this coming Saturday, April 9, 2016. If you can't make it that day, there are several opportunities to help with set up during the week, make snacks, cookies, mocha, etc. and dropping it off or showing up to clean up after the event.

KCC SPRING GARAGE SALE

Saturday, April 9, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Don't Miss Out on this!

GREAT FINDS!
GREAT FOOD!
GREAT FELLOWSHIP!

All are welcome!



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KCC TRANSITIONAL HOUSING MEETING

~ Friday, April 15, 2016, 9:30 a.m.

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MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 23, 2016

8:00 a.m. at Denny's in Kaneohe

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NA ANELA SUPPORT GROUP

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Support Group follow-up 9:30 a.m.

Special Guest Speaker 10:30 a.m.

Caring Hands Hawaii will present helpful tips for Caregivers and seniors on safety and falling. All



are welcome to attend. Potluck refreshments will follow this sharing.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2016

~ Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

