

# Waves of Faith

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



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## In the Interim

“Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

December is always a time of great expectancy. We know that something important is coming, and we can hardly wait. Like children struggling to sleep on Christmas Eve or grandparents getting the house ready for the family to come, we can hardly wait. But ours is not an aimless killing of time or waiting with no purpose. No! Ours is a waiting that is based on the promise of God.

For me the old plain song “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” catches the mood of the season. It has a very old quality to it to remind us that the people of God are people of hope. It is not accident that Hebrew the word for hope and the word for wait are the same. Our waiting is hopeful because it is based on God who keeps promises. That’s why it always ends with rejoicing.

As in years past, we will follow the same pattern of Christmas Play December 18, Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. and Christmas at 10:00 a.m. That’s right: Christmas falls on a Sunday this year. Each of those services will be different, and we are planning something different from the regular Sunday service for Christmas day. There will be lots of carols to sing, and we will use the candles on Christmas Eve.

This will be the second Christmas Eve that I will be with you and away from family. My family will gather Christmas evening, and our celebration will happen just a little later than most. Besides, we can always celebrate Christmas through Epiphany (January 6). That gives us twelve days to celebrate the gift of love that is ours and the whole world’s in Jesus Christ.

May your waiting be filled with hope, and may your hope sustain you as you trust in God who keeps promises in surprising ways to surprise us this year with new opportunities for joy.

Your servant in Christ,

*Jack E. Belsom*

Jack E. Belsom, Interim Pastor

A Most Blessed  
Christmas to all  
and a very Happy  
New Year!



## MODERATOR'S NOTES

I wanted to give you an update to our Pastoral Search progress. We met with Pastor Kamanu from the Hawaii Conference on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> where he briefed us on the process and also answered questions that the committee had. It was productive and clarified the support that the Conference had available. He also gave us a format to use in developing our church profile. This is a document that will inform any prospective candidate who we are, which would go a long way in assuring a good fit. It sounds simple but there are 40+ pages to fill out. While this is requiring a lot of work, it has proved to be invaluable in understanding who we are and who we were.

I also want to remind you that the past year has been spent in activities that will prepare us for our future; Bible studies, Visioning Retreat, and the Transition Team projects. Pastor Jack's guidance during this time has been invaluable and the conversations that have taken place has provided growth and understanding for those participating.

Our first meeting of the Pastoral Search Committee took place on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> and was very productive. We are trying for a covenantal relationship in our group with the intent of creating a safe environment where we can all share in a cooperative process. As we begin to answer the questions about our church for the profile, we have engaged in conversations that maybe should have happened years ago. They have been productive and people have been honest. These conversations have been going on at our Bible studies and recently our Council meetings and will go a long way in directing our path forward.

Peace,

--Roy Yamauchi †

## PRAYERS & PRAISES



Please keep in your prayers

- ~ Blanche Keahi
- ~ Sue Nakashima
- ~ Mitsi Higashida
- ~ Lowell's sister, cousin Leroy, and uncle
- ~ Winnie & George Nakamura
- ~ Hazel Chow
- ~ Akiko & Stanley Nakamura
- ~ Sats & Carl Nemoto

Our dear sister in Christ, Kay Teruya, passed away on Thurs. Oct. 27 around midnight and we have been informed that her service will be held at Hosoi Mortuary on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 at 4 p.m. (visitation is at 3:00 p.m.). Please keep Minoru, Andy, Pauline (Miki), Joanne and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Flora Murakami, another long-time member and dear sister in Christ also passed away on Oct. 22, 2016. A private service for the immediate family was held in early Nov. Please keep her family in your prayers especially during this holiday season.

Pray for all our homebound KCC Ohana and those who have not been able to join us for whatever reason. May they know that they are sorely missed.

Please keep Irene Kanetake and family in your prayers as they deal with the loss of her sister, Dorothy Calacay. Dot was a dear friend of KCC.

Continued prayers for our Search Committee members who are serving on our behalf. Maha-lo for their commitment of time and energy to complete this process to help us select our new pastor.



**CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Saturday, December 24, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

Join us for this special time of worship and please plan to stay for a time of fellowship and special refreshments following the worship service.

**DEACON NEWS**

Seasons Greetings!

As 2016 fades into memory, may the Lord bless you and your family with good health, peace, and happiness. We want to thank you for all of your support this past year. Your generous funding for the Deacons Benevolence fund is put to good use assisting our friends in the community that need a helping hand. Your donations of delicious goodies support the Sunday refreshments every week.



Here is a brief recap of the year. We started off 2016 with the annual get to know your deacon lunch, where we shared the “tell me a story about the church” activity. In April communion was shared with the 4Cs congregation, and we worshipped together again in August ending with a joint onolicious potluck lunch. World communion was celebrated in October with breads from around the world. This year the deacons started serving communion at home for our homebound members. In an effort to address the needs of our congregation we are currently working to start up a transportation service for members who have difficulty getting around. If you are interested in either receiving communion at home or you wish to be involved in the transportation program you may contact one of the deacons or call the office so arrangements can be made.

Our transition to 2017 heralds much change and growth. We look forward to that and

pray that God will continue to guide and fill us all with the Spirit to grow in our faith, love, and committed service in His name. This season, as we rejoice in the birth of our savior, let us also anticipate the future that God has in mind for KCC.

Peace,  
Myrtle Terada, Deborah Fong, Sharon Mon,  
Bryan Gomes, Paul Grable and Diane Lee Pilla†



**Congregational Meeting**

**SUNDAY,  
DEC. 4, 2016**



We will have a very important Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, the December 4.

Your participation is especially important as we vote on a number of items. Please make it a point to attend. We do need to have quorum of 34 to take a vote on these important items. Mahalo.

Agenda items to vote on will include:

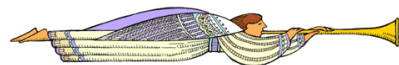
1. Authorize the extension of Pastor Jack’s contract by one month if needed.
2. To accept the Vision Statement draft 4C as presented.
3. Vote on new officers of the church
4. Vote on the 2017 budget



**FRIENDLY REMINDER REGARDING REIMBURSEMENTS FOR PURCHASES ON BEHALF OF THE CHURCH**

Please submit all request for checks with the appropriate attached receipts into the office as

soon as possible so the Treasurer can make the necessary arrangements for reimbursements before the end of 2016. Mahalo for your assistance in this matter.



Please keep your KCC leaders in your prayers and listen to your heart as to how you can serve God in His church right now. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms...." 1 Peter 4:10



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- Myra Yamada
- Royce Kojiro
- Jean Miyaji
- Myrtle Terada
- Shawn Eberlein
- Paul Grable
- Brandon Gerber
- Molly Hagmann
- Sharon Mon
- Sandra Siu
- Carol Soma
- Grant Jessee
- Jennifer Yoshimura
- Pat Oyama
- Lauren Shiroma
- Michelle Martinez-Ramos
- Kiyooko Sproat
- Alaka'i Todd

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- John & Mildred Sakamoto
- Dean & Maureen Wakuzawa
- Howard & Saeko Yoshida

*Please inform the office of any corrections and/or updates re. your personal information in this area.*



**KCC SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Date:	Adults	Children (under 12)	Visitors
10/30	62	06	--
11/06	68	14	02
11/13	64	08	04
11/20	62	06	02
11/27	62	09	02

**MAHALO Guest Speakers**

A special thank you goes out to Rev. Wayne Ibara for being our Consecrating Steward and sharing in our 2016 stewardship drive.

A sincere mahalo to Scott Furukawa, our special guest speaker on Thanksgiving Sunday.



**SPECIAL THANKS** to Debbie Fong who we noted in our Nov. edition for her sharing of her testimony and to Nancy Arakaki and Dan Jessee who also shared their inspirational testimonies in early Nov.



All Saints Day provided a chance for us to light a candle of remembrance for our dear partners in ministry who have passed away this year: Carl Sakata, Flora Murakami, Wendy Tamashiro and Kay Teruya.

Flora Murakami, Wendy Tamashiro and Kay Teruya.



**MISSIONS NEWS**  
By Kammy Grable

Mahalo KCC for your great support of the KCC Food

Drive. Items were taken to St. Anthony's Outreach /Food Bank to assist with the 400 people a month that they try to help.



**KCC THANKSGIVING OFFERING**

Mahalo KCC, Your generous and compassionate donations to our Thanksgiving Offering will be deeply appreciated by the UCC Transition House and Hale Ola, the Windward Abuse Shelter our recipients this year. Both of these shelters attend to the needs of victims of domestic abuse. If you are aware of someone who need their assistance, please contact the church office or call 528-0606 or 949-2220. Mahalo for your consideration. At first count we have received more than \$1500 to share with these two much appreciated programs.

**NA ANELA SUPPORT GROUP**

Special thanks to Steve McCall from HMSA's Wellness Program for his wonderful presentation in November: Music and Health Christmas Special. This uplifting event brought holiday cheer early this year. We look forward to an encore event that will start our new year off well... featuring Steve again. Don't miss out on this one!



**A New Year Beginning – Sat. January 28**

Our favorite HMSA guest speaker, Steve McCall will present, LAUGH-SING-MOVE. Studies show that Americans are snacking on about 570 calories more each day than in the 1970s. Discover calorie-free alternatives to snacking. You'll be invited to laugh out loud, sing with vigor, and move! Na Anela support group will begin gathering at 9:30 a.m. to update and pray for all our friends dealing with life threatening illnesses and at 10:30 a.m. our special guest speaker will begin. We will conclude the event with a potluck lunch and fellowship time. Please join us!

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Kudos to our Youth, Katie Gomes, Grace Myers, Rayn and Stone Jessee for their help with our Advent Candle-lighting Readings each week. Good Job youth!



**TRUSTEES NEWS**

The trustees would like to thank all those that came out for our church-clean up day on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. It was our last chance to clean up before the holiday season.

On Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, an informational meeting was held to discuss the 2017 budget. Thank you to all the members and friends who took time to review the budget with us. There was good discussion regarding several line items. In fact, a few changes were suggested

which will be brought up during our congregational meeting on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to attend this important meeting to accept our 2017 budget.

Please note that is never too late to turn in your pledge cards. We will gladly accept them and update our pledge records.

Should you ever have any comments or concerns regarding our church facilities or finances, please speak with any of the trustees. We welcome all comments and suggestions.



Love in Christ!

Your Trustees

### New Study Offered in January **Surprised by Hope**

Christians normally think of the future in terms of 'Heaven', but the promised reality is far greater: a new heaven and a new earth, a whole new creation. Once you grasp this biblical vision of God's future, it will transform your understanding of life in the present.

In six transforming, faith-inspiring sessions, premier biblical scholar N. T. Wright opens your eyes to the amazing full scope of what God's Word has to say about the world to come and the world that is. N.T. Wright is one of the world's top biblical scholars, a prolific author, and Bishop of Durham in the Church of England.

This course will be offered in January. We are asking people to sign up in advance. Please sign up by calling the church office (261-0125) or by signing up on Sunday. The participants' guides will be ordered and partially subsidized by the church. That will guide us through the six sessions.

Based on the bestselling book *Surprised by Hope*, this course will help you explore with others:

- What is heaven really like?

- Is our main duty as Christians simply to help non-Christians get into heaven?
- What hope does the gospel hold for the present life?
- In what ways does God intend for us to experience that hope personally and spread its healing power to the world around us?

We look forward to having you join a study group on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

A Sincere thank you to Nani Oda for filling in as our pianist when Jenna is not available.

## Thank You!

A special thank you to Lance & Shana Ling owners of At Your Service Cleaning for helping to provide emergency janitorial service in mid-Nov.

A very warm mahalo to Jane Shiroma for coming out to help out with the sound system needs during the Na Anela presentation in November.

Kudos to Paul Dela Cruz owner of Tech Repair Computer Services for his continued support in helping with our Computer maintenance needs.



Also offered at KCC is Bible Institute of Hawaii's Winter Quarter (six week course) on *PROVERBS Wisdom for Everyday Living*. Class will begin on Fri. Jan. 27, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and continue each Friday through Mar. 3, 2017. Proverbs is a goldmine packed with nuggets of God's wisdom. The Holy Spirit inspired the book with a very practical purpose: that we would live skillful lives. The class will explore God's wisdom for every area of our lives: marriage, parenting, friendships, speech, work, finances, and more. Registration now in progress.

**MOMENTS TO REMEMBER**

Friends and Family coming together in support.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

December 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	31

- 01 -Thurs. River of Life Outreach. Food prep at KCC @ noon. Leave for mission at 5:20 p.m.
- 03 – Sat. Chuukese Pastors Mtg. 10 to 1 p.m.
- 04– Sun. Communion in Service, 10 a.m. Congregational Mtg. following the worship service. Funeral at Hosoi for Kay Teruya 3 p.m. visitation 4 p.m. service.
- 06– Tues. Bible Study on Romans, 7 p.m.
- 07 – Wed. Bible Study on Romans 9 a.m.
- 09 – Fri. Floor Stripping and Waxing. Church facilities will be closed.
- 11 – Sun. Installation of Officers. Deacons Mtg. and Missions Mtg.
- 13 – Tues. Last Bible Study on Romans, 7 p.m.
- 14 – Wed. Last Bible Study on Romans, 9 a.m. Council Mtg. 7:00 p.m.

- 15 – Thurs. Deadline for Newsletter articles.
- 17 – Sat. Men’s Breakfast at Dennys, 8 a.m.
- 18 – Sun. Christmas Program. Potluck after worship.
- 19 – Mon. T/H Mtg. w/ IHS, 9:30 a.m.
- 24 – Sat. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 p.m.
- 25 – Sun. Christmas Day Service, 10 a.m.
- 26 – Mon. Holiday Observed. Office closed.

**2017 ALTAR FLOWER MINISTRY**  
 The new altar flower sign up calendar is now available for all who would like provide flowers for the worship service on Sunday mornings.



**Mahalo for your support!**

**JANUARY**

- 01 – Sun. Happy New Year! 4 C special worship. 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- 02 – Mon. Holiday Observed. Office closed.

*“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Eph. 4:2*

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**WORSHIP LEADER**

Bryan Gomes

**AUDIO**

Barney Pilla  
 Grace Glenn

**USHERS**

**VISUAL**

Debbie Fong  
 Diane Lee Pilla

**DEACON GREETER**

Diane Lee Pilla

**LIGHTS & SCREEN**

June Tom

**PIANO**

Jenna Han

**CHILD CARE** Carol Soma, Coordinator

- 04 – Carol & Shane Soma
- 11 – Lara Higashi, Carol Soma
- 18 – No Nursery, Christmas Program featured
- 25 – Carol Soma & Jennifer Pang

**FLOWERS**

- 04 – June & Mel Tom
- 11 – June & Mel Tom
- 18 – Ruth Masuno
- 25 – Poinsettias

**KING’S COMPANY**

**AFTER SERVICE REFRESHMENTS:**

All Deacon groups are invited to share their holiday treats for refreshment time after each worship service this month. Don’t forget the Potluck on Sun. Dec. 18  
 Kailua Christian Church (UCC)  
 317 Manono St. Kailua, HI 96734-2211  
 Ph: (808) 261-0125 fax: (808) 262-8457  
 Email: [kcc-ucc@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:kcc-ucc@hawaiiantel.net)  
 Website: [www.kailuachristianchurch.org](http://www.kailuachristianchurch.org)

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

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

December 7 & 14, 2016  
 Study continues on the book of Romans  
 9:00 a.m. All are welcome.

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**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2016**

All Day Floor Stripping and Waxing Project  
 Facilities will be closed.

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016**

- ~ Installation of Officers for 2017
- ~ Deacons Meeting after worship
- ~ Missions Meeting after worship



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016**

Communion Sunday

- ~ Congregational Meeting after worship. All are encouraged to attend. Members will vote on some important items.
- ~ Memorial Service for Kay Teruya at Hosoi Mortuary. 3 p.m. visitation 4 p.m. service.

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**TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

Tuesdays, December 6 and 13, 2016  
 Study continues on the book of Romans  
 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

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**COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016  
 7:00 p.m.

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Thursday, December 15, 2016

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**MEN’S FELLOWSHIP**

Saturday, December 17, 2016  
 8:00 a.m. at Denny’s in Kaneohe



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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016**

~ Christmas Program: Michael Mouse  
~ All Church Potluck will follow the worship service. Please stay and enjoy.

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**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2016**



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7 p.m.  
After worship we invite you to stay for a time of fellowship and special refreshments.

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016**

A Very Merry Christmas to you and yours!  
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship.

