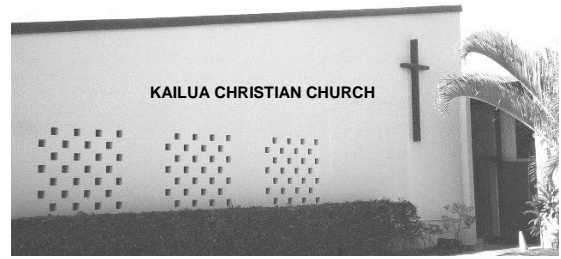


# Waves of Faith

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



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Issue 01



Dear Members and Friends of  
Kailua Christian Church, UCC,

**God is about to do a New  
Thing in 2019!**

As I write this on the First day of Winter, Friday, December 21, 2018, “O Holy Night” is playing on our Google Home smart speaker. Friends have just placed beautifully wrapped presents beneath our Norfolk Pine Christmas tree. What anticipation I have of experiencing my first Christmas Eve Candlelight worship at Kailua Christian Church UCC! In 11 days, we welcome the New Year of 2019. How does God speak to us as we live in this in-between time? It is still 2018 but it will soon be 2019. Our lives mirror this when we are in-between jobs, relationships and yes, even pastors. We are encouraged to have faith. The time will come when we will be hired, when we find true love, and when the newly called pastor arrives!

God spoke to me about Isaiah 43: 18 – 19, N.R.S.V. in times past. Now it seems so appropriate and relevant:

*“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.*

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

*I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert...”*

There is a time to remember. One of the tasks of interim ministry is to reflect on your church’s history. But as a new year arrives, it is time to ‘let go.’ Many families of Asian culture clean

house in preparation for this change. Fire crackers are lit to chase the evil spirits away. Eating noodles after midnight anticipates long life. Some believe that whatever is done on January 1<sup>st</sup> will be the catalyst for the remainder of the year. A clean house, wearing new clothes, and welcoming family and friends to celebrate will continue for the next 364 days! Let us ‘let go’ of 2018 whenever we begin to live in the past.

As we read Isaiah, we can visualize how God made a way through the wilderness and desert for God’s people. We can interpret this as God speaking to us in the present. God is about to do a new thing but are we ready? Are we prepared? Will we even perceive it when it begins to happen? In life, we may have many blessings from God without acknowledging and appreciating what has been given to us. At some time, we were told to “*stop and smell the roses.*”

Living in an in-between time can be a blessing. God speaks to us even when we are experiencing a difficult transition. When we have something taken away from us, it is not easy to accept. When the familiar no longer welcomes us, we may experience grief. The good news of Jesus Christ has been the message of Advent: **Emmanuel means God is with us.** May each of us allow God’s Spirit to transform us as we celebrate Epiphany on January 6, 2019. The wise men from the East had an epiphany when they presented their gifts: they realized this child Jesus would grow up to become the Christ, the Messiah! My prayer is that we, too, may have “*an epiphany*” as we experience the presence of God. ---Pastor Chris

### **MODERATOR'S MESSAGE**

*"I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13*

Happy New Year!!! 2019 is here. Each new year brings with it a sense of hope. What will the new year bring? What will happen at KCC? God knows and has a plan for each one of us this coming year. He actually has a plan for us each and every waking day. Let's embrace each day with thanks and a sense of purpose for it is through His grace that we are here.

I want to thank all who came to our congregational meeting on December 9th. The 2019 faith budget was approved as well as the new slate of officers. I look forward to working with our new leaders as we move forward with Pastor Chris to worship together, develop a vision and start work on a pastoral search committee. Please continue to pray for your leaders, each other and KCC as we embark on this new chapter in KCC's history. Let's also reach out to members who haven't worshiped with us in some time. Invite them back to get involved in this new year.

Should any member feel called to an open leadership role at KCC, please see one of your leaders to discuss the position and its responsibilities. God speaks to us at different times in our lives!

I want to wish you all a Happy New Year!

Love in Christ!

Dean

### **DEACONS MESSAGE**



**We Don't Start Over But We Begin Making Things Better In Our Lives**

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17*

A new year brings lots of questions: Will our health hold? Will our marriage last? Will I be able to hang on to my job? Will I get into the right school? Will I live to see the end of this year? Will the economy improve? Will there be a terrorist attack or some natural disaster that takes me or my loved ones? The Creator of the universe comes to us and says, "Don't be afraid; don't be discouraged."

*"Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:1-9*

In the midst of life's uncertainties in the days ahead, rest assure that God loves us. In the midst of life's inevitable disappointments and heartaches, God can help us find the stability and comfort we will need. In the midst of life's temptations and the pull of our stubborn self-will, God can prevent us from losing our way and give us the courage to do what is right. And in the midst of our daily preoccupations and pursuits, God can open our eyes to the sorrows and injustices of our hurting world, and help us to respond with compassion and sacrifice to those who are in need.

God uses events in our lives to shape us, to teach us, to grow us — and some of the key events are those sparked by sin (our own or someone sinning against us), by our missteps, by our confusion. Memories of the past, therefore, can too easily feel like shackles holding us to failures, regrets, ignorance, foolishness, and sin.

What makes computer games so addictive? You get to start over. Every time. Whether you've played the level once or repeatedly, you start again and again with a clean slate. Maybe this time you'll be perfect.

It's that performance impulse that drives our New Year's Resolution list-making. "Yeah, I know I did not achieve the ideal last year. I was not the person I wanted to be morally or fiscally or socially or spiritually. But I'm about to start a new level. Maybe this time will be different. Maybe I'll be perfect." Here's the problem. God doesn't call upon us to be perfect human beings

or even perfect Christians. Christ has already fixed us. "The new is here!" The game's been won. All the levels have been beat. Instead of trying to life-hack ourselves into perfection, God calls us to live in the new us he has already made.

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead," 1 Peter 1:3*

A good New Year resolution this year would be to have a deeper commitment, a deeper love, and a deeper worship for the Lord.

*"Teach me, O Lord, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end." Psalm 119:33*

Please know that this could be the best New Year of your life. Your life can be filled with hope and peace. To know your real ending will be is an extra bonus.

The real ending in our life will be when Jesus says, "well done my good and faithful servant". That statement will be for someone who took the time to get to know Him, love Him, and that obediently followed Him.

**Prayer**

*Father in heaven, thank you for the gift of a new year and for your promise to always love and be with us. We ask for your guidance and wisdom each day. Be with our families also, and assure them of your love and concern for them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Vernon Pang, KCC Deacon



**PRAYERS & PRAISES**

Please keep in your prayers

- ~ Minoru Teruya in Hospice
- ~ Sharon Nishihira
- ~ John Sakamoto's son in law, Tony S. cancer treatments and wife, Coreen getting hip surgery.
- ~ Three Yr. Old, Nawai Irie healing from Spinal Muscular Athrophy and strength for her family
- ~ Bev & Dale Vallejo-Sanderson and family
- ~ Ruth Uyechi, Dora Kim, Mitsi Higashida, Kiyooko Sproat, Natsuko Matsushima, Hazel Chow, Lillian Ishihara, Ada Kaneoka, Mary Watanabe, Winnie Nakamura, Hideko Mumaw, and Harry Imai.
- ~ All who grieve the loss of loved ones
- ~ Our Interim Pastor, Pastor Chris Eng



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- Ellen Chew
- Jean Kanazawa
- Lucy Khem
- Miley Khem
- Hideko Mumaw
- Akito Sagawa
- Janet Okumura
- Hazel Masuda
- Nathan Nemoto
- Curtis Lau
- Jo Ann Komori
- Mary Watanabe
- Thomas Gomes
- Ada Kaneoka
- Nathan Ching
- Brian Nakashima
- Liloa Hagmann

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- Joan & Terry Gerber
- John & Huiyin Halloran

**KCC SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Date:	Adults	Children (under 12)	Visitors
12/02	45	04	00
12/09	43	02	02
12/16	64	10	00
12/23	53	02	02
12/24 (EVE)	45	06	08

## TRUSTEE NEWS

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it...” Psalm 24 (NIV)

Our church was not created just for you. Instead we are all in God’s church, faithfully stewarding the care, development and management of ALL that he has entrusted to us in accordance with the principles he has established. Each of us has been blessed with different capacities and capabilities. Each of us called to give with a cheerful heart. 2018 has been a challenging year. But your gracious and generous gifts of time, talent and resources have again sustained our church. With you, all of us have been able to continue to strengthen our faith, nurture our church family and manage the precious gifts of time, talent and resources entrusted to us. Thank you, thank you, thank you. The faithful and persevering hard work of many dedicated stewards continue to amaze and bless all of us. Some things I have observed. Requirements for operating as a non-profit organization continue to be maintained. Finances continue to be closely monitored. Although income continues to decline, expenses continue to remain within budget. Additional income from room rentals and fairs defray emergent and unbudgeted needs. Worship services have been reinvigorated a new music leader, a new projector, a new computer and after many different guest pastors...now with an interim pastor. Grounds and property have been maintained through two workdays, overgrown trees and bushes and bird nests in the back of the church have been attended to, parking stalls have been restriped and kitchen plumbing fixtures have been replaced. Sidewalks have been pressure washed. Deteriorated picnic tables have been replaced with new donated tables. A new air conditioner was installed in the pastor’s office. Other aging equipment (e.g. air conditioners) continue to be repaired when needed. The budget for 2019 has been approved. Gifts of time, talent and services also continue to strengthen our faith and nurture our church family and others (e.g. refreshments after church,

Family Promise, Wider Missions, Disaster Relief) as well as continued stewardship of the Chuukese Congregational Church of Christ (4Cs) who we continue to share our facilities with since 2010.

*“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’” Matthew 25:21 (NIV)*

## 2018 THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Final count received on our Thanksgiving Offering was \$1965. Hale Ola, Windward Spouse Abuse Shelter received \$655 and the balance of \$1310 was sent to the HCUCC Disaster Relief Fund for victims of disasters here in Hawaii.



and other wonderful Mission Responses.

KCC you have been so faithful and generous through this difficult year to all of our Missions Ministry efforts that we had committed to for 2018. For our UCC Special Offerings this year the following was received:

UCC Christmas Fund/Veterans of the Cross - \$970, One Great Hour of Sharing - \$1225, Strengthen the Church - \$626, Neighbors in Need - \$1065, OCWM (in Budget) \$6,000. We also donated to the Windward Coalition of Churches - \$360, Bible Institute of Hawaii - \$800, along with other ministry resources of time, food, and service for a number of outreach ministries such as Family Promise Hawaii and River of Life Outreach at Chinatown Mission. Thank you for your kind support!





## NA ANELA SUPPORT GROUP

Happy New Year 2019!

Na Anela i ka hana a ke Akua's support group at Kailua Christian Church celebrates its 17th anniversary!

We have been blessed since 2002, with wonderful, prayerful support from many members and friends and subject matter experts from a variety of health-related fields. Chef Daniel Swift, instructor at Kapi'olani Community College, demonstrated his cooking skills in our very own KCC kitchen 2009-2010 and he is back in 2019.

Please join us for a class on healthy cooking with Chef Daniel Swift and his wife Alice. They will be preparing a variety of healthy dishes including: Ginger Steamed Fish, Mixed Grain and Tofu Salad with glazed carrots.

In addition, they will share some helpful hints and recipes for quick and easy finger foods such as:

- Somen Noodle Nests
- Braised Brussel Sprouts
- Cucumber Sandwiches
- Tomato Soup Shooters with Cheese toast
- Trail Mix

Date: Jan 26, 2019 (4th Sat)

Time: 9:30 - Short meeting in Room 3.

10:00-12:00 (2 hr. session) Guest Presenter

Location: Kitchen

Refreshments in Room 3: Healthy dishes prepared by Chefs Dan and Alice; we can bring in the desserts.

Pls contact Kammy (808-261-0125) or me (808-348-2297), if you plan on attending.

Maximum seating is 20.

Wishing you all a very healthy and prosperous 2019!

Mahalo, Myra Yamada

## A Time to Celebrate - Note from Pastor



Fun games, neat prizes, thoughtful gifts, ono food, great fellowship! And meeting Jo-Ann, a high school classmate was amazing ... that all these years, she has continued to attend this lunch, even though she is a member of another church.



Thanks for the invitation: enjoyed it very much!  
Pastor Chris

## mission Update

### Disaster News and Resources

In October 2017 the Conference Council voted to create the Hawai'i Disaster Relief Fund to allow the Hawai'i Conference to respond quickly and efficiently to both large and small natural and human caused disasters throughout the islands.

Gifts to the Hawai'i Disaster Relief Fund allow us to provide support for holistic recovery and to restore dignity for the most vulnerable who may have lost everything in the wake of cata-



strophic events. We continue to accept donations for those in need, and checks may be made payable to HCUCC with a notation, "Hawai'i Disaster Relief Fund." Donations may also be made online by clicking on the "Donate" button found to the left and selecting "Hawai'i Disaster Relief."

We continue to closely monitor the eruptions and lava flows on Hawai'i Island and follow recovery efforts from the recent flooding on Kaua'i. Read a [pastoral letter](#) addressing the Kilauea eruptions and an [article](#) in the UCC News by Eric Anderson. The Hawai'i Conference as well as the national United Church of Christ stand ready to assist as the needs of our churches and people in the affected areas are made known.

We ask for your continued prayers and support for our brothers and sisters on Hawai'i Island and Kaua'i.



Saturday, January 26, 2019 – 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in Ewa Beach. Cost is \$35 registration which includes lunch. The speakers for this Conference will be adjunct facilitators of BIH who teach the courses offered throughout the year. This Inspirational conference is being sponsored by Bible Institute of Hawaii and the Salvation Army KROC Center Hawaii. See hallway bulletin board for details.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY RESUMES ON JANUARY 9, 2019.**



9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Room 3. All are welcome! Check out your weekly bulletin on an update on what the group will be studying during this time.

On the last Wednesday of each month, instead of study, the Wed. morning study group welcomes all to a Movie presentation from 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. in Room 3. In January, the movie, Esther will be featured. This is a story of Queen Esther who saved her people. This free event welcomes all family and friends!

Special Note: A big mahalo to Steff Moderow and Keith Schultz for coordinating these movie events (complete with set up, decorations, and snacks) for the past year.

### **GOOD NEWS FOR A WONDERFUL FRIEND OF KCC**

Our dear friend, Rev. Jayaprakash (JP) Sabbithi has informed us that he has accepted a call to be the pastor of the Joy of Christ Lutheran Church in Pearl City. His first Sunday at the Joy of Christ will be on 6<sup>th</sup> of January. We celebrate with him as he takes on this special calling. Pastor JP was always gracious to our pleas to be pulpit supply through the numerous years that we had a need for a pastor.

### **UPDATES**

We are finalizing the new church directory for KCC and will target the annual report meeting for distribution. Please take time to assist us with any last minute adjustments that you may be aware of regarding changes of names, addresses, phone numbers, cell numbers or emails that you may want to include. Please send this information to [kcc-ucc@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:kcc-ucc@hawaiiintel.net) by Jan. 13. Mahalo for your kokua.

### **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION**

We will be including in your Sunday worship bulletin one Sunday soon, a form entitled, Plans for My Memorial Service. This completed form may be a helpful gift that you can share with you family to help make this time less of a challenge for them to fulfill your wishes. The church office has also been a place that a copy can be stored at and can be shared at the appropriate time. Please prayerfully consider how this can be helpful to you and your family. Mahalo!

**SPECIAL PEOPLE, SPECIAL MOMENTS**



**Advent & Christmas Eve**



**Mahalo to all who participated in our Christmas activities this year. It was great to see all of you taking part on these special events.**



**THE WILL OF GOD**

by Rebekah Nolt

The will of God will never take you,  
 Where the grace of God cannot keep you.  
 Where the arms of God cannot support you.  
 Where the riches of God cannot supply your  
 needs.  
 Where the power of God cannot endow you.

The will of God will never take you,  
 Where the Spirit of God cannot work through you,  
 Where the wisdom of God cannot teach you,  
 Where the army of God cannot protect you,  
 Where the hands of God cannot mold you.

The will of God will never take you,  
 Where the love of God cannot enfold you,  
 Where the mercies of God cannot sustain you,  
 Where the peace of God cannot calm your fears,  
 Where the authority of God cannot overrule for  
 you.

The will of God will never take you,  
 Where the comfort of God cannot dry your tears,  
 Where the Word of God cannot feed you,  
 Where the miracles of God cannot be done for  
 you,  
 Where the omnipresence of God cannot find you.

**TOGETHER IN MISSION**

The Gospel mission of Jesus Christ started with the commissioning and sending out of the twelve disciples.

We continue this mission today as the church carries out the work of Jesus Christ on earth. As Jesus himself commanded; “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.”. This has been identified as the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20.

As part of the Mission Committee at KCC, I personally understand that to mean that our commitment is: to share the the Word of God, help those in need, and live our lives as examples for others, all relying on the grace of God to guide us.

These are not easy tasks. Just like the twelve disciples, we are bound to make mistakes and fail to be good examples for others. I am given hope in remembering that Jesus chose these people himself. If he entrusted these very important tasks to ordinary and not always dependable people, like myself, to make a difference in the world...the least I can do is have faith that he sees I am capable to serve his purposes whatever that may be. And as the verses concludes, “...and surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age”, we can be encouraged that he is with us in this journey that we have been called to. I look forward to your partnership as fellow servants and disciples of KCC. May he use us in mighty ways, always to His glory!

Kammy Grable, Missions Chairperson

Thank you for your faithful and kind support in all our ministry efforts together in 2018. I look forward to another year in his service.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

January 2019						
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 – Tues. HAPPY NEW YEAR! Church of-  
fice will be closed. Four C Church  
will be using our facilities.
- 06 – Sun. Communion Sun.
- 09 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- 12 – Sat. Fred Masuda’s funeral service is at  
10 a.m. visitation 11 a.m. service at  
Hosoi Garden Mortuary.
- 13 – Sun. Deacon’s Meeting, following wor-  
ship.
- 14 – Mon. Annual Reports for 2018 are due in  
the church office. Please submit in  
writing via Times Roman font, 12.5.
- 16 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- 19 – Sat. Satsuki Nemoto’s funeral service  
will be held at Borthwick Mortuary  
in downtown Honolulu – 10 a.m.  
visitation, 11 a.m. service.
- 20 – Sun. KCC and Four C Church special  
meeting to bring us up to date w/ our  
Stewardship commitment.
- 21 – Mon. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.  
Church office will be closed.
- 22 – Tues. Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- 26 - Sat. Na Anela Support Group and guest  
Speaker Chef, Daniel Swift (10 a.m.  
to noon)
- 27 – Sun. Congregational Mtg. announcement  
made. 2018 Annual Reports will be  
distributed and they will be voted  
on, on Feb. 10 at the meeting.
- 30 – Wed. Movie Fellowship with WMBS  
group, 9:00 a.m. in Room 3.

Note: Save the date, Sat. Feb. 16 for our KCC  
Leadership Retreat. We will begin at 8 a.m. to  
3 p.m. here at KCC. All are welcome.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**AUDIO**

Barney Pilla

**VISUAL**

Debbie Fong

**PIANO/ORGAN**

Scott Baehrens

**WORSHIP LEADER**

Diane Lee Pilla

**GREETER/ USHERS**

Paul Grable / Jennie Lee  
Pat Chinn / Walter Yeda

**LIGHTS & SCREEN**

Barney Pilla

**KING’S COMPANY**

Leaders sought



**Altar Flowers**

- 06 – Dr. Gary & Susan Morita
- 13 – Arcadio & Michelle Martinez  
-Ramos
- 20 – Paul & Kammy Grable
- 27 – Pam Morikawa

Thank you for your already wonderful response to  
support the Altar Flowers ministry for 2019. There  
has been a great response for sign ups and we con-  
tinue to welcome your participation for the Sun-  
days that have not been filled. At this time Alice  
Esaki would like to thank all those who were gra-  
cious enough to donate flowers for our Altar  
Flower ministry. Special thanks to June Tom,  
Joan Sakaba, and Michelle Ramos who helped  
arrange and provided flowers for those who need-  
ed assistance in providing the arrangements each  
week. Please see Pam Morikawa for more details  
on how you can be of support. The Altar Flower  
Calendar is on the back bulletin board in the sanc-  
tuary. MAHALO!

**REFRESHMENT HOUR AFTER SERVICE**

We sincerely appreciated the wonderful support of  
helpers for cleaning up after the worship refresh-  
ments lately. As always, your delicious and gen-  
erous goodies have really been enjoyed each week  
and we love to have the time to fellowship togeth-  
er, enjoy these treats... but sometimes the clean up  
time becomes a hardship on just a few. So, we are  
so thankful for your kind response to lend a hand  
during this fellowship time. Thank you, KCC  
family for stepping up and lending a hand and  
sharing your heart to the needs of ministry.

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

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Return service requested

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019

Happy New Year!
Church office closed.
Four C Church will use facilities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

~ Epiphany Sunday
~ Communion Sunday



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:00 a.m. Wed. mornings
Study will start up on Jan. 9, 2019

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

Deacons Meeting following worship

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019

2018 Annual Reports are due.

FUNERAL SERVICES

Sat. Jan. 12 - Fred Masuda at Hosoi
Sat. Jan. 19 - Satsuki Nemoto at Borthwick

Visitations at 10:00 a.m.
Services at 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019

~ KCC & Four C Church will have their end of
the year meeting following worship. All are wel-
come to attend for an update on this ministry.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019

~ Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019

~ Na Anela Support Group
Prayer Meeting with ohana updates @ 9:30 a.m.
Guest Speaker, Chef Daniel Swift will share
Health dishes that he and his wife will prepare.
Guests are invited to bring a dessert to share.
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
Limited Seating, Please notify Myra of your
interest in attending.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019

~ Congregational Meeting Announcement
~ Distribution of Annual Report for Review
(Vote to accept will be held on Feb. 10th)
~ Proposal given on Hearing Assistant System

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019

Movie Fellowship, 9:00 a.m.
(Esther), Story about a Queen that saves her people