

Waves of Faith

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



NOVEMBER 2019

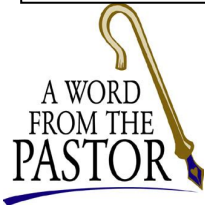
Volume 34

Issue 11

the

CHURCH IS

“What Time is It?”



During our Sunday 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Bible study on “Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 8, N.R.S.V.,

Debbie Fong answered the question: “*What was the author writing about?*” Her response was, “*What time is it?*” Verse 1 reads, “*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*” There are 14 pairs of opposites and she was addressing verse 2 which read, “*A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.*” The second question would be “*How do we know what time it is?*” These are great questions and in the context of Kailua Christian Church UCC which is going through an interim time, there are no easy answers.

As we read the poetry of Ecclesiastes, there is another perspective that emerges. Moving from this description of life, is the concept of balance. The prescription is to live with a sense of knowing what time it is and to try to accept both the positive and the negatives. In this, we may come to understand that what is painful and not what we asked for, may be precisely what we need and being able to embrace what seems to be something we would never ask for, is simply the way life is.

We are entering the time when the church focuses on the concept of Stewardship. In this, the Trustees, the Council and other boards and committees will begin to wrestle with projected monetary amounts for various categories. Some approach this very conservatively while others would be more liberal in what they would allow.

like a business and there is always a bottom line. One never spends more than one makes because income must balance expenditures. However, others believe the church is also an organization that embraces faith and hope in our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Because of this, there is a willingness to “*take a step of faith*” and run with a proposed budget that doesn’t balance what people give and what income is received with the projected expenditures.

Where are you in this scenario? Is being a good steward mean being fiscally responsible and trying to live within our means? Or is stewardship one that calls us to envision what God is doing and will do as we look to 2020? The reality is that the church is made up of both types of people, both ways of seeing the church, and of course, there are those whose views lie in between these two perspectives.

My understanding is that there needs to be balance in our thinking and in our stewardship. This means we each need to express our views and at the same time, be open to others who share different perspectives. To be the church, there are things that we end up “*fighting for*” but there are other things we simply have to “*give up.*” It takes time to work through consensus and to be able to agree on a final budget even though you may have reservations. You will be asked, “*Can you live with these proposed figures?*” My prayer is that you as members of this church will find your way and discover, “*What time it is*” for you and for the church!

Aloha,

Chris, Interim Pastor

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Galatians 6:9-10



Happy Anniversary! November marks the 1st anniversary of Pastor Chris serving as our interim minister. How quickly one year has passed. I am thankful for his service and leadership this past year. Pastor Chris' presence at KCC has been a true blessing. He has brought a sense of calming, love and hope to KCC. During our Council meetings, Pastor Chris has shared views on the roles of our various leadership positions and made us more aware of stewardship in all we do at KCC. He has brought his wealth of knowledge and faith in serving God and churches to KCC. Let's all celebrate this exciting milestone.

Susan Morita, Myra Yamada and I attended the Oahu Mokupuni at First Chinese Church of Christ on Saturday, October 19th. There was a worship service provided by the new Hawaii Conference Minister, David Popham. This was followed by a general meeting where a vote was taken on the organization's 2020 budget. It was interesting to learn that the organization's income had dropped by about a third in the recent year due to membership reduction in member churches. There was also a breakout session where we were able to meet leaders from other churches. It was refreshing to meet Pastor Makana from Waipahu UCC. He is a younger gentleman who grew up in the church. We also met a young Navy man named Damian who worships at Pearl City UCC and who hopes to study to become a chaplain. Damien shared that Pearl City UCC has two services and they have approximately 300 members. Hearing the enthusiasm shared by both of these young men was exciting that God continues to work in our local churches.

The Pastoral Search Committee continues to work on the local church profile. They are close to completing this step in the process of finding a permanent pastor for KCC. I have to share with you that the chair of the committee, Diane Lee Pilla, has resigned from this committee. I wish to thank her for serving on the committee and working with the others to get things off to a great start. A new chair will need to be selected by the remaining committee members. It has been discussed and decided that the committee will continue on with the remaining 7 members only. It was decided that to add a new committee member at this stage, would slow down the momentum that the committee has made over the past two months. Please keep this committee and its members in your prayers as they continue their important work for KCC.

We continue to look for people interested to serve in leadership positions at KCC. Please see one of your current leaders if you have any questions or are interested in serving. The leadership slate of officers and committee chairs is being worked on currently. The new officers and committee members will be presented for vote by members at a congregational meeting to be held on December 8th.

Council recently approved the 2020 budget of income and expenses. This 2020 budget will be mailed to members in the coming weeks. We plan to have an informational meeting regarding the 2020 budget on Sunday, December 1st with a congregational meeting to vote on the 2020 on the following Sunday December 8th. Please mark your calendar for these important meetings. You will see that the budget presented will be a faith budget as has historically been the tradition in KCC's past. I encourage all of us to be prayerful and remember that God has always provided for KCC and will continue to do so in the future. Let's not be fearful of our future, but excited for the opportunities that God provides for us, each and every day.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving and great November!

Love in Christ!

Dean, your moderator

KCC TRUSTEES NEWS



Workday. About a dozen members graciously devoted at least two hours on the morning of 12 October and cleaned our facilities for you all to enjoy. The small but committed team worked hard to clean areas not

normally covered during workdays. The team pressure washed the front of our church, cleaned and tidied up the sanctuary, cleaned outdoor areas adjacent to the kitchen, and cleaned the transitional housing areas. Harvey did a great job cleaning and organizing the storage rooms earlier. Dean, Vernon and Barney applied their collective might with many tools and did an amazing job removing three large thorny bushes.

Budget. Please help our church council develop a budget for 2020. Since 2015, total gross income exceeded total gross expenses largely due to special offerings dedicated to specific dedicated funds (e.g. Building Fund, and wider ministry donations such as UCC Neighbors In Need, UCC Christmas, UCC One Great Hour of Sharing, and UCC Strengthen the Church). But budgeted income (monies available to operate our Church and fund our ministry programs) declined more than 30% since 2015 and is continuing this downward trend. As of September, total expenses exceeded total budgeted income by more than \$20,800! Operating expenses without program expenses (i.e. Christian Ed, Deacons, Worship and Wider Missions) currently exceed budgeted income by more than \$13,150! We are clearly spending much more than we have coming in. And there are still 3 months left this year. The 2019 budget was established as a faith premise without considering income forecasts. The wisdom of this practice to sustain and grow our congregation is questionable. We may wish to reconsider if continuing to wait for God to fund our Church would best meet our needs. We all must get engaged and learn how to properly

establish a budget. Most guidance currently indicate budgets should be based on balancing income with investments which are closely aligned to the mission, capabilities and needs of the congregation. The trustees provided church council and committee members with detailed records of income and expenses for each account since 2015. The trustees also provided guidance on how to allocate church budgets by size of the church. Council members now need to ensure the total budget will be within income forecasts for 2020, ensure budgets will support operations first and then ensure program budgets are aligned to the mission, capabilities and needs of our congregation. They will need your help and input. The council needs your voice to determine if our congregation has the capacity, capability, will and commitment to support programs such as Family Promise and River of Life and to support past agreements such as the 9 year long agreement to steward the Chuukese Congregational Church of Christ (4C)s. Please, talk to your council members. Provide them with clear recommendations regarding programs which should be continued or suspended for now. Provide them with recommendations for reducing operating costs and ways to increase funds. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Susan St. John
Kayla Halloran
Carla Cummings
Katie Gomes
Terri Lipps
Daniel Masuno
Carl Nemoto
Diane Lee Pilla
Henry Halloran
John Lipps
Debbie Martinson



Rev. Beth Plumbo
Rev. David Turner
Sharlene Yamauchi
Emily Peters
Bryan Gomes

Harvey & Sherie Oga
Winchell and Lily Lee

Vernon & Jennifer Pang
James & Pua Todd

~ Pastor Chris Eng and our Pastoral Search Team

Sincere Condolences and prayers for Alice Esaki and family on the passing of Richard on 10/20/19. Services will be held at Hosoi – Time TBA

KCC SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Date:	Adults	Children (under 12)	Visitors
10/06	46	04	00
10/13	45	04	00
10/20	37	03	00
10/27	48	04	02

DEACONS MESSAGE

The Christ In Us



One of my longtime friends, David Andrews, wrote a poem that he recently shared with me. It is called “The Christ In Us” and I would like to share it with you.

It is the Christ in us,
There to flower or fail,
Ripen in hope
Or fade and turn pale.

It is the glimmer
Guiding us safely to shore
Or the signal
We choose to ignore.

We are born and
Bathed in it,
It imbues our every
Waking minute.

So much so
We fail to recognize
What is right
In front of our eyes:
A monstrous love.

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Grable, Deacon



NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA SUPPORT GROUP

(Angels in the Works for God)

You won't want to miss out on our last 2019 speaker, who is a good friend of Kailua Christian Church and an exceptional speaker.

Dr. Ruby Ovitt will bless you with her two-hour (0930 a.m.-1130 a.m.) presentation, “**R E S T in Him**”. Bible verse: Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (NIV version)

“Everyone has problems. Some problems are feeling of loneliness or depression, health problems, broken relationship with a loved one or someone else, lack of finances, spiritual emptiness, lack of goal, etc. but in spite of whatever problem you are facing, our loving God wants you to **R E S T in Him**. When you keep on **resting in Him**, He captivates your heart, He penetrates your soul, and He transforms you to become the person who is wholesome in body, mind, and spirit. You, therefore, can face your problems with confidence and experience joy in your everyday living.

Come and let us learn together how you and I can **R E S T in Him** so that we can overcome our

PRAYERS & PRAISES

Please keep in your prayers

- ~ Sharon Nishihira
- ~ Sue & Brian Nakashima
- ~ Jayden a 12yr. old boy with Osteosarcoma
- ~ Joan Dupree in a coma in critical condition
- ~ Howard (Saeko) Yoshida, Walter Yeda,
Ruth Uyechi, Mitsi Higashida, Hazel Chow
Natsuko Matsushima, Ada Kaneoka, Winnie
Nakamura, Hideko Mumaw, Lillian Sakaguchi,
Akito & Annie Sagawa, Harry Imai, Ruth Lum,
Derrick Teruya, Myrtle Terada, Robert Maeshiro



problems and continue to experience His unfailing grace and mercy!”

Please come, invite a relative and friend!

Location: KCC, Rooms 3 & 4

Time: 0930-1130 (no meeting this day)

Bring: Your Bible and notepad/pen

Refreshments & fellowship: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Ruby's award-winning books, My Journey of Healing from Cancer and Reaching out to the Broken-hearted, will be on sale for a discounted price of \$10 each. 10% of her sales will support Hawaii Baptist's Academy Student Scholarship for students whose parents are either divorced, widowed, separated or has cancer.

Please reserve Nov 16 on your calendar, 0930-1130 a.m.

Mahalo and God Bless!

Myra

MISSIONS UPDATE

As we are prayerfully considering our Stewardship commitments for the new year, may I respectfully ask you to trust God to take us through these challenging times. As your Missions chairperson, my intent is not to overburden you with a few of the many ways you can serve God, but to encourage you to continue to trust God -- as he has always been faithful to us. In all we do, may it be to honor and glorify him and not to fear or grow weary of serving him. Let us be thankful for the many ways he has blessed each one of us.

November has arrived and there is much going on. As we look at missions, may I encourage you to please reserve Nov. 17 – 24 to support our Family Promise Week here at KCC. We need your help to provide items on the food supply list for that week, sign up to provide a cooked meal on one of the evenings during that week, volunteer to be a friendly face to fellowship with our guests during dinner, or sign up to be an overnight host during one of the nights. Pray about how you can serve God through those in need in this program. Please contact Bryan

Gomes or Kammy Grable for more details. Mahalo.

17th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza - Nov 9th

Please join us on Saturday, November 9th for the 17th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza benefiting Family Promise of Hawai'i and Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Kailua. Come to enjoy an all you can eat chocolate buffet and silent auction! Tickets can be purchased at emmanuelkailua.org!

At our last ministry outreach for 2019 at River of Life, on Thurs. Dec. 5, 2019, we seek your help to make this a special outreach for our friends at the Mission. Let us bring cheer to the lives of our friends on the streets of Chinatown esp. as we near Christmas. We welcome personal hygiene items that can be distributed to the guests attending that evening. We welcome traveling size products from your trips: Soaps, shampoos, toothbrush/paste, disposable razors, etc. that would be special treats for our friends. Baked cookies, candy canes, etc. are also welcome! Please see Kammy for more details.



Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to supply our Windward Side “Food Bank” through St. Anthony’s Church has begun. We reach out to those in need by receiving your generous donations of canned food items, and non-perishable goods that will bless some of our windward ohana who are having a hard time. We continue to receive your donations through Nov. 24 and deliver them to St. Anthony’s for distribution on Nov. 25. Your kind support is always appreciated.

Our **Thanksgiving Offering** this year will be distributed through care packages for ROL guests as we serve them a Christmas meal; a thank you gift will be sent to Ray Uehara and family as a thank you gift for their continued service with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Ray’s parents were members of KCC and Ray has been a big part of ministries translating the Bible in numerous languages for people to be able to embrace God’s word in their own language, and he also engages

in resources that make communications more user friendly for people sharing the gospel in many places around the world. We will also provide a Christmas gift for a homeless family during the holidays. We will receive your special offering on Thanksgiving Sunday. Please use the special envelope that will be mailed to you with the Thanksgiving letter. MAHALO!

 **Happy Thanksgiving**
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 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

- 03 – Sun. Communion Sunday. Celebrate All Saints Day and Remember all who we have lost in 2019.
Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris, 11:45 a.m.
- 06 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m.
“Slaying the Giants In Your Life” w/ Dr. David Jeremiah sharing a message followed by group discussion.
- 07 – Thurs. Tai Chi Class, 10 a.m.
- 10 – Sun. Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris, 11:45 a.m.
2020 Stewardship Packet will be distributed. Deacons Mtg. in Library.
- 11 – Mon. Veteran’s Day Holiday. Office closed.
Pastoral Search Committee Mtg. 7 p.m.
- 13 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, Slaying the Giants in Your Life, 9 a.m.
Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 14– Thurs. Tai Chi **Class**, 10:00 a.m. in Nursery
- 16 – Sat. Na Anela Support Group, REST in Him workshop, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with potluck lunch to follow.
- 17 – Sun. Family Promise Week hosted at KCC.
Bible Study w/ Pastor Chris, 11:45 a.m.
- 20 – Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- 21 – Thurs. Tai Chi Class, 10:00 a.m. in Nursery
- 24 – Sun. Thanksgiving Sunday. Thanksgiving Offering received, Pledge Card and Time and Talent Sheet will be

- received and Food Drive Food to be blessed and delivered.
- 27 & 28th No classes Wed. or Thurs.
HAPPY THANKSGIVING
Thurs. and Fri. Office closed.
- DEC. 01 – Sun. Advent begins. Communion.
Budget Informational/Discussion Mtg. will be held following worship.
- 08 – Sun. Congregational Meeting to vote on 2020 Budget and Slate of Officers immediately following worship.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

AUDIO
Barney Pilla

VISUAL
Debbie Fong

PIANO/ORGAN
Scott Baehrens

Altar Flowers



- 03 – Barney & Diane Lee Pilla
- 10 – Stella Wakamatsu
- 17 – Dot Suzuki
- 24 – Ruth Masuno

2020 Floral Calendar now available for those wanting to sign up. Mahalo for your consideration.

WORSHIP LEADER
Dean Wakuzawa
Mia Anne Watanabe

GREETER/ USHERS
Jennie Lee / Walter Yeda
Pat Chinn / Bruce Kugiya
Aaron Tanaka, Paul Grable

LIGHTS & SCREEN
June Tom

KING’S COMPANY
Leaders sought

ALL SAINTS DAY
In Remembrance

We take a moment to remember our dear brothers and sisters in Christ who passed away this year. We will light a candle and share a prayer for 7 Members:



Richard Esaki - 10/30/19 Kiyooko Sproat - 3/1/19 Reggie Castillo - 6/18/19
and 2 friends:



GROWING OLD

On the first day of college our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being.

She said, 'Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?' I laughed and enthusiastically responded, 'Of course you may!' and she gave me a giant squeeze.

'Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?' I asked. She jokingly replied, 'I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids...' 'No seriously,' I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

'I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!' she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this 'time machine' as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor.

Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, 'I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know.'

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, 'We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing.

There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die.

We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!

There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.

If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything, I will turn eighty-eight.

Anybody! Can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets.

The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets..'

She concluded her speech by courageously singing 'The Rose'.

She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those months ago.

One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL. We make a Living by what we get. We make a Life by what we give.

--- offered by member of KCC

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

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Christopher Eng, Interim Pastor

~ Deacons Meeting following worship
~ Bible Study with Pastor Chris

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

~ Veterans Day Holiday, Office is closed.
~ Pastoral Search Committee Mtg. 7 p.m.

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Return service requested

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Wed. mornings
Nov. 6, 13, 20, 2019

Slaying the Giants in Your Life a dvd/study by
Rev. David Jeremiah. All are welcome to attend.

THURSDAY MORNINGS

November 7, 14, 21, 2019

Tai Chi Classes

In the Nursery, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

(Bring a bottle of water to stay hydrated.)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019



- ~ Communion Sunday
~ All Saints Candlelighting Ceremony
~ Bible Study with Pastor Chris
11:45 a.m. in the Nursery (Room 1)
~ Food Drive Begins.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

~ Stewardship Packet is distributed.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019

~ Na Anela Support Group
Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Ruby Ovitt
REST in HIM Workshop
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m. Potluck lunch to follow

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK hosted at KCC

Nov. 17-24, 2019

We welcome your support with food donations, preparing a meal, being a greeter or overnight host. See Sign Up sheet for details. MAHALO!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thursday, Nov. 27 Office closed.

Friday, Nov. 28 Office closed.

**MAHALO KCC OHANA FOR YOUR
GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE 2019
GIVE ALOHA PROGRAM**



**Special thanks to Foodland, Western Union
and all our supporters! We received
\$11, 107.00 in customer donations plus a
matching gift of \$2,550.20 for a total of
\$13,657.20**