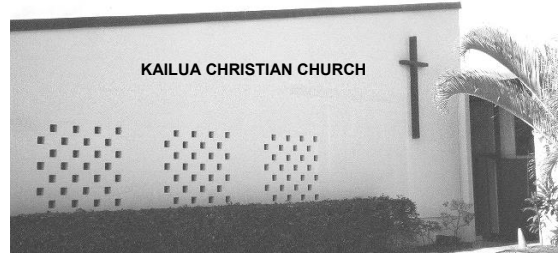


# Waves of Faith

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



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**EYE-WITNESS NEWS** by Chris Eng,  
Reporting live on 2/23/20

Flames of fire were witnessed by those worshipping in the sanctuary of Kailua Christian Church UCC on Sunday, February 23, 2020. This followed Debbie Fong's Children's Sermon where she taught the children about the 5 senses because the text included being an "eye-witness." This could be interpreted as an early celebration of the Day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2: 1 - 3 (this year, it will be May 31st).

*"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were altogether in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them...**"*

However, this was Transfiguration Sunday, three days before Ash Wednesday. A two-piece metal receptacle welded by a member of Waipahu UCC church in the 1980's could be seen by all. Since most would not attend the Ash Wednesday service, I decided to burn palm branches as was done last year. Slips of paper were added and olive oil mixed with the ashes to form a paste which was used to make a cross on parishioner's forehead. They would hear the words, *"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."* The ashes allow us to experience regret for having done wrong (penitence), to mourn (feel sadness or grief) and to realize our mortality (someday we will breath our last).

Those in the congregation were invited to come forward and take some piece of palm branch and

place it into the fire. As I reflected on this, I came to realize it was a community effort where many got involved in what I was trying to accomplish.

Keith Schultz and Robert Maeshiro both insisted that the metal receptacle be placed on the concrete, not on the red carpet.

June Tom had brought a large bag of dried palm branches from her home.

Aaron Tanaka was the lone soul who answered the invitation to take the box of matches I had brought and to start the fire going.

Many members of the church came forward to add a palm branch to the fire.

John Sakamoto grabbed his camera and came to the front to shoot digitals of the event.

As the fire grew and smoke began to billow upwards, Dennis Fong began to fan the flames which caused the smoke to decrease, a trick learned from being a Boy Scout leader.

Reggie Yamada disappeared for a few moments and returned with one of the church's red Fire Extinguishers in case it was needed.

Several worshippers close to the front, left the sanctuary, expressing their concern about the fire and smoke that posed a danger, especially with those with certain medical conditions. Some returned later but others were not seen again, even after the worship service ended.

Dean Wakuzawa took the metal receptacle outside after all the palms had become ashes.

Several commented that this made worship exciting!

Others were concerned about the smoke and opened doors to air out the sanctuary.

Our church, Kailua Christian Church UCC, is a community of faith. We are individuals but each

of us have some contribution to make. In a sense, the church has been dealing with a crisis precipitated by the series of unfortunate events in previous years. The Chinese calligraphy or characters **危机**, for the word, “Crisis” means both “danger” and “opportunity.” Today’s lighting of palm branches by the congregation demonstrated a crisis. There was danger of fire and smoke. But here was an opportunity for many to get involved. Each moved beyond “talking about what was happening” to “actually doing something about it!” Each member and friend of KCC is important because on any given occasion, there will be a situation that demands action.



Dennis Fong's actions reduced the amount of smoke in the sanctuary! Digital courtesy of John Sakamoto, Photographer

Together in Christ’s Service,  
Pastor Chris Eng

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**



Wed. Feb. 26, 2020

**MODERATOR’S NOTES**

***“And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.” Matthew 21:22***

The scripture above came to mind as I was writing this month’s article. One of KCC’s strength’s is that it is a prayerful church. Many members and friends have shared stories of miracles happening in their lives with the power of prayer and have thanked our congregation for praying together for them. It is a true blessing of our beloved KCC. We currently have many “prayer warriors” in our midst who faithfully pray daily for people with ailments or prayer requests. Thank you to all for your commitment and true faith of praying to our God in Jesus name.

How quickly this year is moving along. Here we are welcoming March 2020 already. The Council approved the local church profile (LCP) document that the Pastoral Search Committee worked diligently on these past few months. The LCP will be submitted to Rev. Richard Kamanu a second time for final approval and posting this coming month. Please continue to pray for the PSC, the Hawaii Conference, and the LCP that this LCP will be accepted, posted and ultimately result in pastor(s) who feel called to apply to KCC. God has a plan for KCC and we must continue to be vigilant in our prayers asking for Him to call a pastor to KCC who will lead us on our faith journey as we move into the future.

Several of your church leaders (Michelle Morikawa, Pam Morikawa, Susan Morita and I) attended the Hawaii Conference’s Church Leadership Event on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Nuuanu Congregational Church. It was attended by many church leaders from different churches. Many of the attendees flew in from the neighbor islands as well. There were two workshop sessions with different classes to choose from. I attended “Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure” and “Appreciative Inquiry: Seeing God at Work in the Church”. The first session is pretty self-explanatory as it covered important meeting protocol’s per Robert’s Rules. The second workshop was quite interesting as it was about Hawaii Kai UCC’s 6-month discernment process that resulted

in new ways to reach out to the community and deepen relationships in the church. This may be something that KCC’s leaders may want to consider in the future. The other workshops that were attended included: The “What, Who, When and How” of Church Record Keeping; Leasing and Licensing Church Property; Church Insurance; Disaster Preparedness for Church.

We will be having a congregational meeting on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, after our Sunday worship service. This meeting is being held to receive and accept the 2019 Annual Report. This is an annual meeting that is required by our Bylaws. If you are a member of KCC, please plan on attending as we want to ensure that we establish quorum to enable us to accept the 2019 Annual Report.

Please continue to pray for KCC as we continue to take steps toward our future together. I pray for health, happiness and love for all of you!

Love in Christ,  
Dean



UCC Leadership Conference hosted at Nuuanu Congregational Church.

**DEACONS MESSAGE**

**Live Each Day with Gratitude**



Gratitude is one of life’s greatest gifts. Studies linked the emotion with a variety of positive ef-

fects. When we make this choice, we are showing an understanding of our free will.

Gratitude is a practice where we look at the good things each day, no matter what is happening in our lives.

Gratitude improves self-esteem and enhances relationships, quality of sleep and longevity. People who keep a journal tend to have a positive outlook on life.

Gratitude is a state of mind we cultivate in ourselves that enables us to understand others. IT is our greatest challenges and losses that bring us our greatest lessons.

Gratitude causes anxiety to disappear. Worry refuses to share the heart with gratitude. Focus more on what you do have and less on what you don’t have. Gratitude is the secret to a life of contentment.

(From Marci, Lucado, and Lily)

Aloha, Your 2020 KCC Deacons



**PRAYERS & PRAISES**

Please keep in your prayers

- ~ Corrine & Tony Sarabia
- ~ Pauline Vilorio (Miki Teruya)
- ~ Larry & Sandra Siu
- ~ Darren Navarre
- ~ Alan Ishikane
- ~ Debbie Nakaji
- ~ Pastor Chris’s mother-in-law
- ~ Diane & John Mendenhall
- ~ Pastor Guy Kapeliela



- ~ Howard Pang, Hazel Chow, Myrtle Terada, Walter Yeda, Alice Esaki, Sue & Brian Nakashima, Mitsi Higashida, Harry Imai, Ada Kaneoka, Natsuko Matsushima, Hideko Mumaw, Winnie Nakamura, Lillian Sakaguchi, Akito & Annie Sagawa, and Ruth Lum’s family.

~ Pastor Chris Eng and our Pastoral Search Team



Friendly reminder: A celebration of life service will be held at KCC for charter member, Ruth Masuno on Monday, March 16 – 10:00 a.m. visitation, 10:30 a.m. service. Pastor Chris will facilitate the service.

In our initial meetings Diane Lee Pilla was selected to be the Chairperson; Dennis Fong was the Assistant Chair; Nancy Arakaki was selected to be the Chaplain; June Tom was selected to be the Secretary and Reggie Yamada was the Assistant Secretary.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



- Lance Yoneshige
- Mikayla Maeshiro
- Jolene Chang
- Alan Yoneshige
- Cindy Imai
- Jason Lau
- Nathan Chang
- Heather Bernal
- Sam Kojiro
- Cyndi Kesler
- Joshua Weible
- Maureen Wakuzawa
- Dean Wakuzawa
- Pastor Tim Weible
- Lowell Terada
- Winchell Lee
- Linda Yoshimura

Dennis Fong gathered a lot of information and provided it to all of us for use in drafting the local church profile for KCC. Each of us were assigned various portions of the profile to draft.

On September 1, 2019, we met with Rev. Richard Kamanu from the HCUCC and he provided us guidance and instructions for moving forward.

In November, Diane Lee Pilla resigned from the PSC and Paul Grable was selected as the new Chair. Efforts were thereafter made to streamline the KCC church profile into a much smaller document than that which had been recommended by the UCC. Our streamlined document was sent to Richard Kamanu and the HCUCC in early December 2019 to make sure it complied with UCC requirements. No feedback was received until early January 2020. The feedback received appeared to indicate that what we had prepared was adequate with a few supplements.



Bruce & Coleen Kugiya

**KCC SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Date:	Adults	Children (under 12)	Visitors
02/02	50	05	03
02/09	44	04	--
02/16	45	02	--
02/23	49	03	--

Also, in December, KCC Council decided that the PSC should be seeking a full-time pastor. That fulltime job description information and salary information been incorporated into the KCC local church profile.



The PSC incorporated information into profile in response to the feedback from the HCUCC. The local church profile has been completed and submitted to Council for its approval. Upon approval by Council, it will be resubmitted to the HCUCC for their approval and finalization. Thereafter it will be posted online on the UCC National Opportunities page and we will begin soliciting applications for the position.

**PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS**

In July 2019, following the adoption of the new purpose and vision statement, a new Pastoral Search Committee (PSC) was formed. The PSC for 2019 included four members from the congregation and four members from the Council. The four members from the congregation were: John Sakamoto, Diane Lee Pilla, Nancy Arakaki and Reggie Yamada. The four members from Council were: Dennis Fong, Paul Grable, Pam Morikawa and June Tom. June was the only new PSC member to have served on the PSC in 2016 and 2017.

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Grable, PSC Chair





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

(Angels in the Works for God)

AED Institute of America, Inc will provide KCC's annual CPR/AED training on Mar 28, 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Sat). Thanks to John Sakamoto's generous donation, in memory of his beloved wife, Mildred, our church has been gifted with a ZOLL Plus Automated External Defibrillator (AED). John's contribution has also provided for the annual AED Readiness Program which includes an annual site inspection visit, replacement of batteries/pads, and refresher training, etc.

Please invite a friend or family member who is interested in learning more about cardiac arrests, CPR and AED procedures. According to the AED Institute, "The likelihood of survival (cardiac arrests) increases to 90% when the victim receives high quality CPR and a shock from an AED within the first 2 minutes of sudden cardiac arrests. Performing CPR triples a person's chance of survival. 88% of the sudden Cardiac arrests that occur yearly will happen at home."

0930-1015: Group Sharing and Prayer Requests  
 1030-1130: AED & CPR Training (AED-certified instructor)  
 1130-1230: Light refreshments (bring a favorite healthy dish)

Let's pray for everyone's continued good health throughout 2020!

God Bless, Myra

**TRUSTEES REPORT**

We are very happy to announce that God Squad Church Kailua will be utilizing our facilities for their Christian services on Friday evenings between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. beginning on February 28, 2020.

We permit Kailua Christian Church ("KCC") facilities usage by community-related groups and activities when compatible with KCC "Covenant and Purpose" as stated in the Bylaws of KCC and approved by our leadership/decision making bodies. We have attended the service/s of God Squad

and found that it supports the primary purposes of KCC by promoting Christian worship and fellowship.

We encourage you to stop by sometime and meet our new friends on Friday night at 7:00 pm. and join them in worship.

Please feel free to reach out to your Trustees if you have any questions or concerns.

*(Adding Trustees Report provided for Feb. newsletter but inadvertently omitted.)*

God blesses our days as we live our lives for God.

Trustees met for our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting without the presence of Dennis Fong who left us to become clerk. We were so fortunate that Dennis updated, did research, prepared documents and even worked on our buildings and grounds. A big Mahalo to Dennis! It is said that one door closes another opens! So, we give thanks to Dennis and welcomes another faithful servant Michelle Morikawa who previously served as a clerk. We are blessed that our trustees comprise of a charter member, an accountant and a manager trainer. Together we welcome you for help, suggestions, or criticism as we go forth this year. We give thanks to our moderator who supports us and provides all financials when needed.

**PTL As Pastor Chris says "Praise the Lord"**

We wanted to share with you that our dear member Irene Kanetake left a townhouse to Kailua Christian Church. We are now working with the specifics as to what to do with the property. We have also been given a monetary gift from Karen Oi in memory of her mom Ruth Oi. We are truly blessed in receiving these monetary gifts. As we have many decisions to make, we pray for Gods direction. We are also working with the P.S.C. for our settled pastor's package.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Proverbs: 3:5-6

Myra, John, Maureen, Michele, & Susan

## MISSIONS UPDATE

MAHALO KCC for your generous support of \$855 for the UCC Christmas Fund. We are grateful that we can provide this for those who have served in ministry and may now have some challenges of their own.

Our next offering will be the UCC One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering. We will collect that offering on March 22. The theme is Invest in Futures. The scripture reference is 1st Corinthians 3:5-9. It tells us we are servants in the service of God, one planting, one watering, and God being the one who grows and nurtures it all.

When we participate in the OGHS offering, we provide valuable support. Our church reaches people who suffer from emergencies, chronic poverty, and violence worldwide.

Among the support we give, water, sanitation and adequate nutrition top the list of resources needed. Assets such as irrigation systems, wells, latrines, and wash houses change people's lives in amazing ways. Clean water and adequate facilities improve health and gives dignity to people at the same time.

What may seem like a small investment to us, yields amazing results worldwide. With water, sanitation and adequate food, children are more likely to attend school, and women, no longer Searching for water, are able to earn money to contribute to their families' well-being and overall health.

Together, we are co-workers in God's service, planting and watering seeds for God to nurture.

Thank you on behalf of the individuals and communities who will benefit directly from your support.

SPECIAL THANKS to all for the great support we received hosting Family Promise week at KCC. We welcomed 4 families (6 adults and 5 children) to call KCC their home during the week of Feb. 23- March 1.

We look forward to sharing a message and a meal with our friends at River of Life Mission in downtown Chinatown on Thursday, March 5, 2020.

We welcome your help with shredding chicken in the morning or coming by the mission by 6 p.m. to serve the meal. A special blessing includes Lia Lau sharing the evening message of God's love for our guests. Please see Kammy if you can join us. Please wear comfortable covered shoes and eat dinner before coming. Mahalo!



## NOTES FROM CHRISTIAN ED:

**King's Company:** We have currently have King's Company up and running again. If you have any children interested in attending King's Company, please bring them to service. King's Company starts after the children's message. In addition, if you are interested in supporting this ministry please contact me or any member of the current King's Company team.

**Prayer-Small Group:** We are planning on starting a prayer small group before service from 9 am to 9:50 am. We plan to start the gathering with praise\worship and a time to pray for one another and for the church. We are planning on starting this group on **March 8<sup>th</sup>** in the library or the Pastor's office.

**Additional Christian Education Projects:** If you have any ideas on future Christian Education related activities please feel free to contact me.

God Bless,  
Aaron Tanaka  
Christian Education Coordinator

*It is good to know who is The One  
who sits on the only throne that matters.*

**UCC Notes**

The Rev. Dr. David Popham, Hawaii Conference Minister sent a letter to all UCC churches inviting congregations to think through a plan of action should the coronavirus manifest on our islands.

We are encouraged to use common sense:

- Get flu shots
- Stay at home if sick
- Ill parishioners should reach out to church family for assistance when in need such as getting food or being taken to doctor visits
- Be aware and reach out to members who are absent per their normal church attendance pattern

Suggestions were made as to taking precautions and providing hand sanitization resources, and discerning behaviors in the worship format with Communion and community touch.

We are asked to continue in prayer for those already affected by this virus and for families who have lost loved ones to it. MAHALO.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>March 2020</b>						
<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

**March**

- 01 – Sun. Communion Sunday. Grief Class.
- 04 - Wed. WMBS DVD series, 9 a.m.
- 05 – Thurs. Tai Chi Class, 10 a.m.  
River of Life Message and a Meal
- 08 – Sun. Annual Meeting/ Vote for A/Report – Members encouraged to attend.  
9 a.m. Prayer Small Group in Library

- 08 – Sun. Intro to Bible Study at 11:45 a.m.
- 11 – Wed. WMBS DVD w/ Dr. David Jeremiah
- 12 – Thurs. Tai Chi Class 10:00 a.m.
- 15 – Sun. Meet Your Deacons Lunch
- 16 – Mon. Memorial Service for Ruth Masuno at KCC 10 a.m. visitation 10:30 service
- 17 – Tues. Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
- 18 – Wed. WMBS DVD w/ Dr. Jeremiah 9 a.m. Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- 19 – Thurs. Tai Chi Class, 10:00 a.m.  
HIM Conference @ Convention Center
- 20 – Fri. Church Office will be closed.
- 22 – Sun. OGHS Special UCC Offering received Study on Prayer Class w/ Pastor Chris
- 25– Wed. Wed. Morning Bible Study, 9 a.m. Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 – Thurs. Prince Kuhio Day Holiday. KCC office will be closed. No Tai Chi.
- 28 – Sat. Na Anela Support Group 9:00 a.m. w/ CPR/AED Training 10:30 a.m.to 11:30 a.m. with a Potluck to follow.
- 29 – Sun. Study on Romans, 11:45 a.m.



**WORSHIP LEADER**  
Dean Wakuzawa

**AUDIO**

Barney Pilla

**GREETER/USHERS**

Deacons: Lily, Nancy & Vernon  
Pat Chinn and Jennie Lee

**VISUAL**

Debbie Fong

**LIGHTS & SCREEN**

June Tom

**PIANO/ORGAN**

Scott Baehrens  
Nani Oda

**MUSIC LEADERS**

Diane Lee Pilla & Paul Grable

**KING’S COMPANY LEADERS:**

Aaron Tanaka and Katelyn Wakuzawa

**Altar Flowers**



- 01 – Mel & June Tom
- 08 – Mel & June Tom
- 15 – Barney & Diane Lee Pilla
- 22 – Alice Esaki
- 29 - Mel & June Tom

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Return service requested

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING

DVD Study with Dr. David Jeremiah
'Count It All Joy'
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

THURSDAY MORNINGS

March. 5th, 12th, and 19th, no class on 26
Tai Chi Classes
In Nursery
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon
(Bring a bottle of water to stay hydrated.)

SUNDAY, March 1, 2020

~ Communion Sunday
~ Grief Support Group following
worship. 11:45 a.m.



SUNDAY, March 8, 2020

~ Prayer Small Group - 9:00 a.m. will begin
In the Library. Aaron Tanaka will facilitate.

(immediately after worship)
~ Annual Meeting to vote
on accepting the Annual Report for 2019
~Members are strongly encouraged to attend so
we can have quorum and take a vote. Mahalo.

~ Intro to the Bible Class after the Annual Meet-
ing. We will meet in the Nursery at 11:45 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

MEET YOUR DEACON LUNCHEON
Immediately after worship. All are welcome!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

~ Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS MINISTRIES

HIM Conference at the Convention Center
March 19- 21, 2020
(KCC Office will be closed on Fri. the 20th)

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020

~ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering received.
~ Study on Prayer with Pastor Chris will be held at
11:45 a.m. in Room 1.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

Kuhio Day Holiday Observed.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020

Na Anela Support Group - 9:30 a.m.
CPR/AED Training from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Potluck to follow at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome!

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

~ Study on Romans after worship, 11:45 a.m.