

Waves of Faith

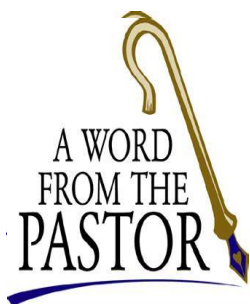
Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Chartered 1959 –



SEPTEMBER 2021

Volume 37

Issue 09



Dear family and friends,

"The best invitations are when you and I are welcomed into a meaningful part of the life of those who invited us."

When Alex gave us the invitation to his Hawaiian Airlines In-Flight Training graduation, we were honored, and moved. We saw close up the dedication he gave to the seven weeks of unpaid, long intense daily hours of training that was required. Bonding with his classmates, they learned about all the different aircrafts and their safety procedures, first aid, water landing safety, handling difficult customers, and embracing the culture and values of Hawaiian Airlines.

The graduation at the Neil S. Blaisdell Center was a wonderful celebration of hard work, camaraderie and joyful excitement of a new career for Alex, us and many other families.

Bev and I beamed with joy for Alex, proud of his dedication to learn, grow and be part of this company with new friends. We celebrated in the moment and have appreciated sharing in this ongoing journey of his life.

"The best invitations are when you and I are welcomed into a meaningful part of the

life of those who invited us." Jesus had a simple, yet very meaningful way of inviting people He met on the way into a special life experience of walking, learning and living in a life changing relationship with Him and each other.

So, you and I have a great life relationship to share and invite others to know they are welcomed. We are including a few invitations for you to send to friends you haven't seen in church for a while, friends you've never seen in church, yet are part of your life. At the heart of the invitation is not simply getting them to church but welcoming them to share in the good and joy of knowing Jesus and His family for their encouragement, comfort and peace right along with us.

We are inviting others to join us because we care about them, because Jesus cares about them.

"The best invitations are when you and I are welcomed into a meaningful part of the life of those who invited us." Share your joy of being part of Kailua Christian as the family of God each Sunday.

I am grateful to be in this life with Jesus and you,

Pastor Dale

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

We American Christians tend to ignore, or not recognize or acknowledge, the things that the Bible makes clear are not good for us. Modern Americans, including us American Christians, don't even try to avoid most of these warnings anymore and/or ask forgiveness for them. We used to call them "sins", but that word has gone out of vogue.

The Christians on the Left side of the American political spectrum pretend that many of the prohibitions or warnings described in the Bible don't have any validity or are not applicable anymore, especially for those who are downtrodden or discriminated against and who are not receiving "social justice". Many on the American Right are quick to point to the potential "sins" of others that may not apply to them. Neither group is particularly good at acknowledging or trying to avoid the things that Jesus warned us about, as those things apply to us. Me included. Many of the things that Jesus talked about repeatedly, we are openly ignoring or don't recognize as being an issue. We are picking and choosing the things that we want to believe are acceptable without taking the words of the bible, including Jesus's direct quotes, seriously.

Here are a few examples of things that the Bible tells us what we ought to do and what we ought not to do, which we individually and as a society are ignoring:

1. Money. Jesus talked a lot about money and the desire to have it and accumulate it. Yet we Americans don't seem to recognize this as a problem. We don't recognize poverty as a virtue or encourage our children to take a vow of poverty. We place the desire to get ahead and earn and obtain money and the accumulation of wealth as possibly the most important thing on our personal agendas. We admire the rich and want to be rich. We feel sorry for the poor and thank God that we are not poor. We view our economy as the number one priority for our American political agenda and are not satisfied with what we have. Jesus would not approve.

2. Coveting. One of the Ten Commandments says to refrain from coveting things that do not belong to us. Our entire capitalistic society and economy, however, are based upon the desire to have things that we don't have but want. We are referred to a "consumers", not people. Advertisements and sales that we accept as normal acceptable activity are designed to trigger our desire to covet stuff that doesn't belong to us. We don't even recognize this as a problem. Jesus would not approve.
3. Truth. Truth is no longer absolute. Most people seem to have their own version of truth now based upon their own personal experience. The Bible says to trust in the Lord and lean not on your own understanding. It also says that we are now looking through a mirror dimly, but later we will see face to face. This means that the objective truth will become clear to us one day. In the interim, we only have glimpses of it. We need to recognize that our glimpse of the truth is not our own truth. It is a limited and flawed view of God's absolute truth. Jesus said he was the truth.
4. Turning the Other Cheek. When was the last time that any of us turned the other cheek when we were offended or wronged by someone? We simply don't do it individually or as a society. We are all for retaliation, especially if it involves an attack by another country or someone who is different from us or a perceived enemy. Jesus would not approve.
5. Lying. Another of the commandments is to refrain from bearing false witness. That is called lying. Lying has become so prevalent in recent days that now politicians and advocates purposefully repeat their lies so often, it makes the public question facts, reality and truth. This apparently is working. We don't condemn the liars anymore and instead listen to them. We are finding the blatant use of lies by our leaders acceptable. Jesus would not approve.
6. Pride and Fame. Pride, or wanting to be like God, was the original sin by Adam and Lucifer. We should be leery of pride and fame. Yet, social

media has exposed our desire to be popular and famous more than ever. It is an epidemic that we seem to be okay with. Jesus would not approve.

7. Forgiveness. Jesus told us to forgive each other freely and repeatedly. We don't see a lot of that in our current American Christian culture. We see a lot of anger and hatred and hurt. Jesus would not approve.
8. Separation of Church and State. Jesus said to render to Caesar that which is Caesar's and render to God that which is God's. Many American Christians don't want to do either. They do, however, want the government to be involved in and implement policies that favor and give benefits to the Christian Church or Christian values. This is true on the Right and the Left as our churches have become more and more politically active. These policies and activities are often contradictory and do not comport well with Jesus' own words. I don't think that he would approve.

There are more examples which won't be raised in this article. I encourage all of us to read the Bible with fresh new eyes outside of the context of our current American culture and hear what Jesus is saying to us about what we should prioritize. The fruit of the spirit is a good guide. We should pursue Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self Control. Jesus would approve.

Agape,

Paul Grable, KCC Moderator



DEACON'S MESSAGE

Empathy and Love – We Humans Need it



Talking with Pastor Dale in our August Deacon's meeting I posed questions to him that were pretty darn negative. I posed questions like what is going happen to KCC with this pandemic regarding membership and financial stability? If you ask my wife, she will tell you that I'm somewhat of a worry wart (a bad trait).

Pastor Dale's reply to me was quite profound. He never was worried once about the survival of KCC being in jeopardy. Pastor Dale said he had faith that love, and empathy will keep us together.

Wow! Empathy and love can keep us (people like me) from entering negative or painful feelings like anxiety, confusion, alienation, loss of identity, not feeling heard, etc.

Paster Dale indicated that he was very aware of KCC's past conflicts but was sure that love and empathy is an antidote to one's own feelings of righteousness and could conquer any moral divide.

Yes! There is a difference between being sympathetic and empathetic. Being empathetic means that we put ourselves in the other person's shoes. Loving one another often means becoming deeply personal with each other, and we see this in the Scriptures as Paul encouraged Christians to Re-joice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. (Romans 12:15). By sharing these emotions, we live life together as a Christian family, through all the ups and downs. The apostle Peter also encouraged Christians to show compassion to others by having unity of mind and a tender heart. (1 Peter 3:8).

Is it a wonder why our "Praises & Prayers" portion of our Sunday service is so important?

We give praises for births, weddings, graduations, birthdays, people reaching milestones, etc. We give prayers for deaths, ill health, lost or ill fortune, etc.

Being Creative

Empathy, love, living by the golden rule, are so critical to, not only to your own personal happiness, but to the vitality of our society, and of the human race. Empathy is one of the core ingredients, not only for a happy life, but of a happy world.

Pastor Dale announced this past Sunday that the Deacons would help facilitate anyone who would like to send a “thinking of you” card to someone they cared about. The Deacons can provide a card (we have a boat load of them) and a postage stamp upon request. Of course, if you want to provide your own card and stamp that would also be ok and appreciated. I think by sending a card we let people know we care and love them.

Christians are called to love one another earnestly (Matthew 22:39; 1 Peter 4:8). One way we can begin to love others is to practice growing our empathy so we can understand each other.

Just as we can show love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19), we are also able to show empathy because God is the greatest empathizer.

Thinking of You,
Vernon Pang



PRAYERS & PRAISES

Please keep in your prayers
 ~ Nick Shiroma and Lauren
 ~ Debbie Nakaji's family on the loss of her mom, Louise.
 ~ Warren & Lynne Nakano
 ~ Myra's sister, Sylvia Shiraishi
 ~ Sharon Nishihira & Steve Hammond
 ~ Sheila's friend, Jody
 ~ Pastor Guy K. from God Squad Church
 ~ Larry & Sandra Siu
 ~ Bret Black ~ Bret's mother-in-law, Rose
 ~ Dennis & Maureen Nakashima



~ Diane & John Mendenhall
 ~ Henry Tom ~ Jane Bailon
 ~ John Sakamoto's Family
 ~ Pastor Damien Wong ~ Rev. Bob Nakata
 ~ Warren Imada
 ~ Pastor Mark Obatake's mom
 ~ Dot Suzuki, Jiggs Tamashiro, Lowell & Myrtle Terada, Walter Yeda, Alice Esaki, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Jean Kanazawa, Ada Kaneoka, Natsuko Matsushima, Hideko Mumaw, Akito & Annie Sagawa, Ruth & Harrison Lum, and all families dealing with high risk factors along with our entire church family dealing with many challenging times.
 ~ Zoom Worship Team
 ~ The safe reopening of churches, businesses, educational institutions and eateries.
 ~ For positive distribution of the vaccine.
 ~ Hazel Chow going to Weinberg Long term
 ~ For all the children going to school and to those dealing with school Covid issues.
 ~ Covid hospitalizations making room for elective surgeries.

Sincere Condolences to Pastor Dale and family on the loss of his stepmom, Annette Sanderson in mid-August. This unfortunate situation follows the passing of Pastor Dale's father who recently died in July. Please continue to keep their family in your prayers. Mahalo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bianca Tamura
 Gary Nham
 Katelyn Wakuzawa
 Caitlyn Vilorio
 Saeko Yoshida
 Carmen Kelly
 Deidre Harrison
 Richelle Nemoto
 Logan Myers
 Jean Sakata
 Natsuko Matsushima
 Stella Wakamatsu
 Kauila Miller
 Kiley-Reese Kano



Maikai Miller
 David Yoneshige
 Robert Maeshiro
 Robert Minamoto
 Irene Kano
 Cary Kano
 Sandra Arashiro
 Grace Myers
 Lance Ling

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Rev. David & Kirsten
Baumgart Turner
Reggie & Myra Yamada
Dennis & Debbie Fong
Stan & Akiko Nakamura
Barney and Diane Lee Pilla



**NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE
AKUA (Angels in the Works for God)**

Sep 25, Saturday, 1000-1100: Meet Joanne Mika Hayashi, Co-Founder & President of Breast Cancer Hawaii, (breastcancerhawaii.org) via Zoom. A breast cancer survivor and patient advocate, Joanne plans on sharing resources on survivorship, including information on clinical trials, emotional support, and opportunities to be more involved in the cancer community. In addition, she'll share about Breast Cancer Hawaii's programs. During this session, she would love to hear everyone's stories and what your current needs are.

**PLEASE INVITE YOUR FAMILY
AND FRIENDS!**

Register by contacting Kammy (261-0125) or Myra (348-2297). Joanne would like to know your questions ahead of time, so she can tailor her presentation to include answers to your questions. A roster of participants will be sent to Joanne.

Details on accessing Joanne's Zoom link and copy of her PowerPoint slides will be sent to your email address (NLT a week prior to Sept. 25th).

Nov 20, Saturday, 1000-1130: Please save the date for Nov's bi-monthly support group meeting at KCC (if our church reopens by then): 0930 meeting, followed by 1000-1130 am presentation by **Queen's Health Center Senior**

Pharmacist, Mrs. Miki Morita, on Medications for Seniors. Detailed information will be provided in the Nov KCC newsletter.

Continue your health and wellness journey from the comfort of your home! Enjoy September classes from both, St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii, and American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)/Windward Community College (WCC).

**St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii's
Caregiver Education and Wellness Series.**

Sign up for individual classes via <https://mailchi.mp/stfrancishawaii/september-2021-calendar>. Click on the registration button for each chosen class. Once enrolled in a class, you will be sent a reminder the week of class and future monthly schedules from Maylynn Wong (808-547-8138; mwong@stfrancishawaii.org).

Sep 02-30: Tue & Thu, 9-10 am; New! Body & Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Sep 03-28: Tue & Fri, 6-6:30 pm; Boxing Fundamentals (standing or seated)

Sep 04-25: Sat, 8-9 am: Livestream Zumba Gold Classes

Sep 09: Thu, 10-11 am; Rooted in Wellness Series with Ho'ookua'aina: 'Aina Momona

Sep 09: Thu, 5-6 pm; Financial Fitness for our Retirement Goals

Sep 13-27: Mon, 8-9 am; Big Moves Monday

Sep 15: Wed, 5-7 pm; New! Chronic Neck & Pain: What are my options?

Sep 16: Thu, 5-6:30 pm; Truths and Myths of Long-Term Care Insurance

Sep 18: Sat, 9-11 am; Brain Injuries, Stroke and Spinal Cord Injuries: What Everyone Needs to Know

Sep 18: Sat, 11am –1 pm; New! Water Up Fire Down: Movement Practice for Better Health

Sep 20: Mon, 1:30-3:30 pm; Make It Happen w/Myra Shindo: Gratitude Practice (in-person at Senior Community Center at the St. Francis Kupuna Village in Liliha)

Sep 21: Tue, 5-7 pm; Social Security Benefits and You

Sep 22: Wed, 5-7 pm; Fall Prevention and Senior Exercises

Sep 23: Thu, 5-7 pm; Medicare Basics

Sep 29: Wed, 5-6:30 pm; New! Research & Recipes: Diet for the Mind

AARP/WCC's Fast, Healthy and Ono Cooking Series.

Register for Chef Daniel Swift's four Zoom cooking classes focusing on locally grown produce via WCC's

Uala Leaf Café at

<https://aarp.cvent.com/HIcooking>.

Sep 16: Thu, 5-5:45 pm; Locally Grown Spotlight on Uala (Sweet Potato)

Sep 23: Thu, 5-5:45 pm; Locally Grown Spotlight on Ulu (Breadfruit) and Avocado

Sep 30: Thu, 5-5:45 pm; Locally Grown Spotlight on Ulu and Papaya

Oct 07: Thu, 5-5:45 pm; Locally Grown Spotlight on Kalo (Taro) and Olena

Please contact me at yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com or call (808) 348-2297 if you have questions. Please stay safe, be healthy and invest your time and energy in any one of these free classes. Mahalo and God Bless!

“NAME THAT AUTHOR”

Here are the answers to quotations for *Name That Author for August*, plus two new quotations for September.



For those who cannot wait a month for the author's name, contact Steff at 218-3324 or at bon-saocats1@gmail.com. If members wish to submit a quotation, submit to Steff who will relay it to Kammy by the 20th of each month.

August Quotations

#1 May the Lord answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you. 2 May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

Answer: Psalm 20:1-2 NIV

#2 Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.

Answer: Proverbs 25:15 NIV

SEPTEMBER QUOTATIONS

1 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Mahalo to Keith Shultz for sharing these with us.



Reason to Celebrate!

KCC was the site of a wonderful and joyous time for our dear friends, Nick Shiroma, Lauren and Dr. Yu Hong. Although it was sad that our dear friend, Susan Shiroma had passed away the day before, her daughter and her newlywed husband from Colorado got to share this special time together with father of the bride, Nick. We were so happy to be able to share this special time in spirit with our KCC ohana. Please keep the family in your prayers as they process this time of heartbreak and happiness.

Special thanks to the family for their memorial gift to our Bldg. Fund, as Susan sincerely had a heart for KCC and its ministry.

KCC INVITATION FORM FOR ZOOM
IS POSTED ON AN ATTACHMENT
PAGE FOR YOU TO USE TO INVITE
FAMILY AND FRIENDS. ALL
DETAILS TO GET THEM TO THE SITE
IS ON THIS FORM -- PLEASE SEE
OTHER ATTACHMENT ON YOUR
EMAIL. MAHALO.

A HARD COPY OF THIS FORM WAS SENT
VIA BULK MAILOUT SO YOU CAN USE TO
MAIL OUT IF YOU CHOOSE.

*My apologies for formmating difficulties and any
inconvenience this may have caused.*

**Please continue to page 9 and 10 to
complete this newsletter.**

INVITATION TO ALL

Instruction's for sending the invitations; Pray for who to send an invitation, you can copy the page and send more.

- A. *Cut the enclosed colored page in ¼'s.*
- B. *Fill in the name of whom you are sending this to.*
- C. *Sign with your name at the bottom. Add a brief note if you would like. Ex. Been thinking of you, or miss you, or care about you.*
- D. *Put in an envelope, address, stamp it and send it out. Call Kammy at office if you need address. (808)261-0125. Mahalo.*



TRUSTEES NOTES

Count your blessings, name them one by one.
Count your many blessings, see what God has done!

Do you know what time it is? No, it's not yet Halloween, nor Thanksgiving or Christmas. It's Give Aloha time! With the Give Aloha Program, Foodland will match donations to different organizations or charities, up to \$249.00. A Maika'i card membership is required, and it's limited to one Maika'i card per donation. You can spread out your donations up to a total of \$249 through the month of September, The amount you give through the Foodland Give Aloha Program will be reimbursed 100% to KCC-UCC. The match of your donation is divided by all charities participating. Last year's match to KCC was approximately \$2,090.95. Members and friends donated \$9,245.51. We invite you to participate! If you are willing to donate, kindly note on your receipt, your name, and if you are making an additional donation or if this is to be considered as your September pledge. We appreciate your generosity, and we are grateful that God blesses us so abundantly! It's our honor and privilege to give back to God!

The Trustees also would like to introduce to you another project called Hawaii Energy Program. It is an energy savings program supported by

Hawaiian Electric. The purpose of this program is to raise awareness about energy conservation which will benefit you and the church. They will pay \$8.00 for every participating person up to \$2,000. Please tune into zoom on October 13 at 6 pm to participate. The zoom link will be announced at a later date. We highly recommend you participate, and as an added bonus, you can have all your light bulbs changed to LED lights at no charge to you.

We truly cannot wait until the day we get to come together and worship in person again. In the meantime, we are grateful for the resources God has given us to be able to have service. Please join us on Zoom on Sundays and invite friends and family! We love seeing you all!

Love and blessings,
The Trustees

God Sent Helpers

Sincere thanks to Jennie Lee as she continues to serve KCC in helpful and thoughtful ways. Jen has been a great support throughout the pandemic – helping with the worship hospitality team, helping as office support and sanitary and maintenance needs including trimming bushes and trees, fertilizing our plants, watering, and cleaning areas needing attention. Her willingness to help wherever the need arises is truly appreciated.

Steff Moderow and Keith Shultz have also been a great support with projects at KCC. They recently ended a meal ministry that was a great help throughout the pandemic. They continue to help with clearing out the library and helping with maintenance needs.

Special thanks to Florence Miyashiro for her help with watering our flowerbeds and weeding, and most recently, clearing the palm frawns and tree branches that cluttered the yard after the wind and rainy weather we recently encountered. Florence has been a great support responding to our request for volunteers to help around the church.



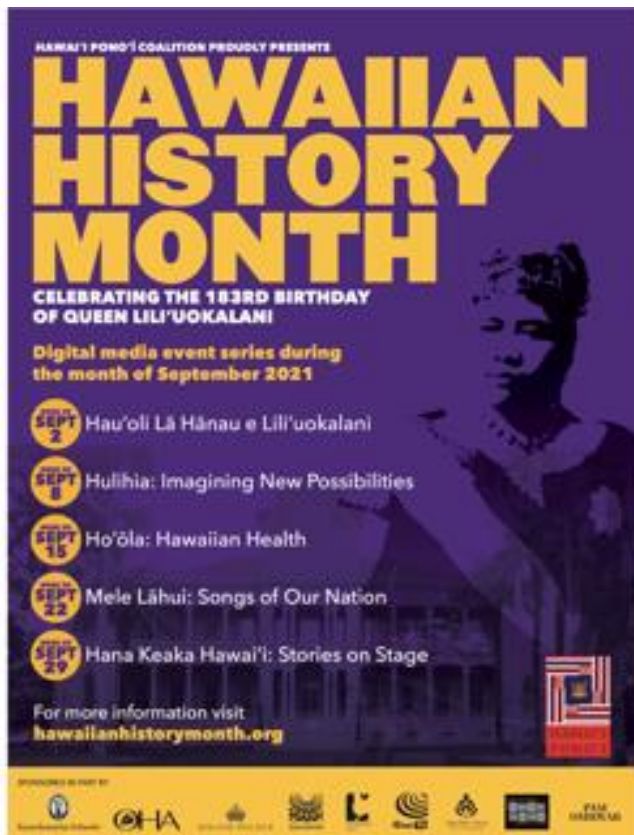
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Email: kcc-ucc@hawaiiantel.net
Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org
Zoom link available through website.

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Return service requested

Rev. Dale Vallejo-Sanderson, Senior Pastor

September is Hawaiian History Month
The Hawaii Conference Reconciliation Working Group invites everyone to attend a series of virtual events celebrating the 183rd birthday of Queen Lili'uokalani.



Foodland and the Western Union Foundation has once again generously provided a great fundraiser for non-profit organizations for the month of September. Donations can be made at Foodland, Sack N Save and Foodland Farms locations.



Please use
Kailua Christian Church Code
78524

Mahalo for your kind support!