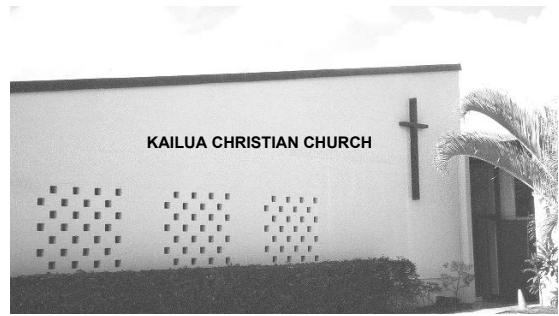


Waves of Faith

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



December 2022

Volume 37

Issue 12



MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Merry Christmas Kailua Christian Church. One of my favorite songs during Advent is: "I Wonder as I Wander". It is a very un-

usual Christmas Carol that does not seem to belong with the other carols that we sing or the things that we generally celebrate during the Advent season. The lyrics are simple.

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky
That Jesus my Savior did come for to die
For poor on 'ry people like you and like I
I wonder as I wander out under the sky*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, all in a cow's stall,
Came wise men and farmers and shepherds and all,
And high from the heavens a star's light did fall;
The promise of the ages it then did recall.*

*If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
He surely could have had it, 'cause he was the king.*

Apparently the first fragment of this song was sung by a poor Appalachian girl from North Carolina in 1933 named Annie Morgan. An American folklorist named John Jacob Niles heard her and composed the rest of the song later that year and performed it and it was published in 1934. This was in the middle of the Depression.

A Christianity Today article for December 2022 by Kelli B. Trujillo described the song as follows: "It's an unusual song, compelling in its

simplicity and musicality. Unlike many carols that ring with joviality, it is set in a minor key and its final note rings out unresolved—a fitting tone for lyrics that speak of wandering and wondering rather than firm answers and clear resolution. In its own unique way, this mournful song captures something beautiful about the Christian life. It brings to mind those early wanderers and wonderers—the shepherds and Magi who traveled to and from the child Jesus, marveling over what they'd witnessed. And it resonates with the spiritual journeys of Christians today as we experience our own wandering and wondering."

When I hear the song, I think of the contrast between the vastness of the time and space of the universe and how small and insignificant and ordinary we people seem to be compared to it. The little girl was wandering out under the sky at night taking in the magnificence of the universe and thought to herself: How could the Creator of everything pay any significant attention to us poor ordinary people? How could it be that Jesus, the son of the Creator of everything, love us so much that He was willing to give his life for us? These are not easy questions or concepts to grasp.

Let's take the time this year to wonder about these things this Christmas season when we wander out under the sky.

Love, Aloha & Agape, Paul Grable



Wise men still seek Him...



DEACONS CORNER



Why is the sky blue? Why do dogs bark? Where does the sun go at night? Young children ask lots of questions as they explore the world around them. As adults we grow weary of the constant interrogation from our youngsters, but we try to provide answers using words and examples children understand, even though we don't always have the knowledge to answer their questions completely.

While we might not be able to explain all of the laws of physics to an inquisitive four year old, Christ is supreme in all wisdom and knowledge. He knows exactly how our world works because He created it! Psalm 104:24 says, "O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made it all." Scientists discover more about our world and its order each day, and the order which exists in creation testifies to God's magnificent wisdom, with which He designed and created the world.

We marvel at God's creation and His wisdom in creating it. And because Christ is supreme in all knowledge, we can trust Him with our life, our future, and the answers to our difficult questions.

Praying for each and every one of you the blessing of this season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Florence Miyashiro, Deacon



PRAYERS & PRAISES

Please continue to keep in prayer



The Kendall ohana in Florida who while dealing with Hurricane Ian, cared for Ken's sister and stayed by her side as she battled terminal cancer and passed away during this time.



PLEASE ALSO KEEP IN PRAYER:

~ Pastor Ruth Peterson who got hurt and had to reschedule her visit with us due to a broken ankle and rehabilitation time.

~ Pastor Alpha who is still healing from hip surgery.

~ Praise God that Warren Nakano is doing well as he and Lynne experience challenges to his health and well-being.

~ Dot Suzuki ~ Kira Chong

~ Reggie & Myra Yamada ~ Nani Oda

~ John Sakamoto's son-in-law, Tony Sarabia and Tony's wife, Coreen (John's daughter)

~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health

~ Danica Fong and her mom, Vici

~ Warren Imada ~ Sharon Mon

~ Henry Tom ~ Lily & Winchell Lee

~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann

~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Otsu Ohana

~ Dennis & Maureen Nakashima

~ Damien Wong ~ Karen Shimizu

~ Jiggs Tamashiro, Walter Yeda, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Jean Kanazawa, Hideko Mumaw, Ruth & Harrison Lum, and all families dealing with high risk factors along with the rest of our church family.

Alice Esaki's brother, Albert Nakaji needs prayer as he recovers from a bad fall while fishing on the big island. Albert is in rehab on Oahu and will return home with his wife Debbie after he recovers.

~ Vernon's friend, Clarence Ching who is recovering from surgery and doing well.

The family of the late Barrett Tuckwho will have their first Christmas without him.

~ Aaron's daughter Marie for good health.

~ Zoom Worship Team and in-person worship.

~ Prayers for our Pastoral Search Committee

~ Praises for Gwynn and Darren Navarre who have been so thoughtful and generous to KCC in memory of Gwynn's parents – Pat and Shirley Yamashita, who were beloved members of KCC.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Myra Yamada
Royce Kojiro
Jean Miyaji
Myrtle Terada
Paul Grable
Brandon Gerber
Molly Hagmann
Sandra Siu
Carol Soma
Grant Jessee
Jackie Ostiles
Jennifer Yoshimura
Pat Oyama
Lauren Hong
Michelle Morikawa
Alakai Todd



Dean & Maureen
Wakuzawa
Howard & Saeko Yoshida

***“We always give thanks to God for all of you
and mention you in our prayers...” 1 Thess. 2***

TRUSTEES NOTES

Your Trustees were busy working on the 2023 Estimate of Spending also known as our budget this past few weeks. By now you should have received a copy and some of you may have attended the informational meeting held after church on Sunday, November 27th. As discussed at the meeting, the 2023 budget is a faith-based budget showing a projected shortfall of income to cover expenses. It was mentioned in our informational meeting that year after year, we have approved a budget with a deficit. Almost every year, we have been able at least break even due to the tremendous gifts provided by members and friends of KCC. God does BLESS us ALL at KCC!

Please plan on attending our congregational meeting to be held on December 4th after church

where we will be voting to approve the 2023 Estimate of Spending as well as the Officers for 2023. We need to have at least 24 members present to have quorum for our congregational meeting. See you there!

As we prepare for 2023, please take time to pray and consider your pledges to KCC for 2023. Turning in your pledge card will help the Trustees and Council plan for our upcoming year. Lastly, thank you all for your generous donations of time and pledges this past year. Have a wonderful Advent Season. Merry Christmas! Your Trustees – Susan, Reggie, John, Maureen, Michelle & Dean

Sunday, December 4, 2022 - Congregational Meeting in person to approve Ministry Vision, Our Annual Budget for 2023 and Officers for 2023.

Sunday, January 8, 2023 – Installation of Officers for 2023 and Release of Officers who have served their terms will occur during our Sunday morning Worship Service. Please plan on being there to support our leaders and celebrate the start of our new year together.

SPECIAL NOTES ON GIVING

Reimbursement requests for purchases made in 2022 on behalf of KCC must be made before Dec. 22, 2022. Please submit your receipts asap.

2022 Giving Statements will be distributed in January. We would very much appreciate it if you will be making a donation for 2022, please be sure to turn it in BEFORE the end of the year or it will be posted for 2023 donations.

Every year KCC provides the opportunity for our family and friends to make a special Christmas Thank Offering for the ongoing work of our beloved church. If you would like to make an acknowledgement as in memory of ...or recognizing a special celebration like birthday or anniversary, please send details and we will post it in the next newsletter.



WORSHIP NEWS

At the beginning of 2022, KCC was on the verge of moving from on-line worship via Zoom only to in-person combined with Zoom worship services. We set the new tentative date for reopening to be March 20, 2022. This was almost exactly two full years since KCC closed to in person worship in mid-March 2020 due to the pandemic.

Also at the beginning of 2022, Pastor Dale was getting ready to start his second year with us as the Settled Pastor and we were hoping that things were beginning to normalize, and that we would be able to take on the new challenges of reopening and doing both live and broadcast worship service.

We did reopen in mid-March 2022, but about that time Pastor Dale decided to step down as our Settled Pastor for personal reasons and we decided not to try to seek to retain another interim pastor. Instead, we proceeded to conduct the in-person and Zoom worship service with the members and friends currently on the Worship Team. We invited guest speakers to provide the message each

Sunday and to fill the pulpit. As a result, we have had a very wide variety of speakers and preachers who have provided wonderful messages and inspiration for us throughout 2022. We are indebted to these terrific speakers and the Worship Team and Kammy for all of the service that they have provided throughout the year and for the high quality of our worship services notwithstanding these transitions and our lack of an interim or settled pastor to help lead us.

Aaron Tanaka and Andrew Vallejo-Sanderson have been providing their IT expertise and have been hosting Zoom portion of our worship. Barney has been our faithful sound system and lighting operator. The ushers and greeters have been led by Jenny Lee and Pat Chinn all year. Thank you also to all the invocation prayer leaders, scripture readers, and offering prayer leaders and other volunteers during 2022. Thanks also to Gail Yoneshige for preparing and recording our worship songs for use during the worship services. Gail has offered to be our Worship Chairperson for 2023 and we look forward to her injection of fresh new leadership to the Worship Team next year.

We are going to continue to need lots of Worship Team volunteers for 2023 as we welcome back our congregation into the sanctuary and start to fellowship with each other again. There are lots of tasks to be performed including: Worship Leaders, Scripture Readers, Children's Message Leaders, Refreshments Coordinator, King's Company Leader, Nursery Care, Music Leaders, Piano/Organ/Guitar/Drum Players, Sanctuary Setup/Cleanup, Lighting, Audio Visual Team, Ushers & Greeters Team, Drama, and Dance.

If you are interested in serving on the Worship Team in 2023, contact Paul Grable (Acting Worship Chair for 2022) or Gail Yoneshige (Worship Chair for 2023) directly or through the church office. We will find a place for you to serve on this team.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Grable



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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Please save the 2023 dates on your calendar for Na Anela's 2023 six bi-monthly meetings:
01/28/23, 03/25/23, 05/27/23, 07/23/23, 09/23/23
and 11/18/23.

If you are interested in Chef Dan's Fast, Healthy and Ono series of cooking sessions, go to:
Aarp.cvent.com/hicooking. You will be taken to a screen that shows a registration button. Click on it and you will see his AARP cooking sessions (recipes and recordings) from Sept 2020 through June 26, 2023. This popular AARP/WCC cooking program's videos and recipes are still available to anyone.

St. Francis Healthcare System's Caregiver Education and Wellness Series continue to provide excellent caregiving and health/wellness classes for the community.

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

THERE ARE NEW PROCEDURES TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES.

1. Review the class descriptions and scheduled time. Please note there are view options: Course View or Calendar View.
2. Select as many classes as you wish to sign up for by clicking on the "ADD TO CART" button under each class description.
3. Once you've selected the classes, scroll back to the top of the page and select "MY CART" on the top right.
4. Select "GO TO CHECKOUT" on the pop-up window.
5. Fill out your name and contact info and then click "CONFIRM".
6. **DONE!** A confirmation email with the Zoom links to each of the classes you registered for will be sent to your email address. Contact Melissa Caballes if you have questions or are having difficulty enrolling;
808-547-8138; mcaballes@stfrancishawaii.org. If this is your first time signing up for classes, please contact me. I will send you the email from

Mahalo to the folks who came out for the Advent Hanging of the Greens event. And special thanks go out to Gail and Alan Yoneshige for preparing the advent wreath and also for making the delicious musubis for all the hard workers to enjoy!



Friendly reminder - We have resumed sharing in refreshments and fellowship time following the worship service on Sunday mornings. We welcome your treats and encourage you to help in making clean up time a userfriendly time which doesn't require a lot of clean up time as we are still short of volunteer staff. Your kokua is much appreciated.

Melissa Caballes which has the actual registration bar).

Individual Classes:

Dec 08: Thu, 5 – 6:30 pm; The Basics of Advocacy

Dec 13: Tue, 5 – 6:30 pm; Medical Decision Making, Power of Attorneys, Trusts, and Wills

Dec 21: Wed, 5 – 6:30 pm; Truths and Myths of Long-Term Care Insurance

Weekly Session Classes:

Dec 01 – 29: Thu, 11 am – 12 noon; Tripudio Movement System with Ellie (lymphatic and fascial system)

Dec 03 - 17: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Frances (in-person)

Dec 05 - 21: Mon and Wed, 5:15 – 6:30 pm; Zumba by Frances (in-person)

Dec 05 – 26: Mon, 8 – 9 am; Big Moves Monday!

Dec 06 - 27: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Dec 07 – 27: Wed, 10 – 11 am; Empower You! (designed for people with Parkinson's)

Note: In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kupuna Village in Liliha. 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 and informative classes.

Mahalo and God Bless! Myra



KCC WISHLIST

Volunteers who are willing to come and do some spring cleaning at your leisure –

Wiping down windows, thinning out storage and giving a little TLC to our garden needs.

Please call the office for more details.



**TO ALL WHO
SUPPORTED THIS
YEAR'S FOOD
DRIVE!**

We were able to deliver 158 pounds of non-perishable goods to the St. Anthony's Outreach Center last week. The team led by Val who has been at St. Anthony's Outreach Center for many years, was so grateful to receive these goods. As I apologized that it was not as much as we normally collect, she graciously commented ...*It was more than we had and will help!*



Kudos to Bible Institute of Hawaii and Pastor Rick Bartosik for providing the Monday evening classes (The Gospel in the Old Testament) held at KCC. The class was so helpful in connecting the teachings of the Old Testament foundations to connecting and appreciating the New Testament even more. It was also great to be with brothers and sisters in Christ from different churches - Can't wait for the schedule of courses to come out for the winter quarter!!! We were also fortunate to have Pastor Rick and his lovely wife Diane join us in worship on a couple of Sundays. We thank God for these blessings!





“NAME THAT AUTHOR”

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

November Quotations:

1 – He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. (Psalm 112:7)

2- When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. (Proverbs 3:24)

December Quotations:

1 – But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. From Florence Miyashiro

2 - Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, (E) and we are his[a]; we are his people, (F) the sheep of his pasture. (G) 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving (H) and his courts (I) with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. (J) 5 For the Lord is good (K) and his love endures forever; (L) his faithfulness (M) continues through all generations.

It's All About



IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS!

As we look forward to the new year together, PLEASE take some time to update any information that needs to be made regarding your personal information for KCC. New names, new addresses, new contact information, new additions, and even losses.

It would also be helpful if we could get more email addresses so we can save on postage when sending mailouts. As we attempt to be good stewards with what we have, please consider providing your information via e-mail to kailuacch@gmail.com. MAHALO NUI LOA!

DECEMBER CALENDAR



- Dec. 04 – Pastor Alpha Goto, guest pastor
Second Sunday of Advent – Peace
CONGREGATIONAL MTG.
Immediately after worship.
- Dec. 11 – Pastor Clive Cowell, guest pastor
Third Sunday of Advent - Joy
- Dec. 18 – Pastor J.R. Cuevas, guest pastor
Fourth Sunday of Advent – Love
- Dec. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE 6:30 P.M.
Pastor Alpha Goto, guest pastor
- Dec. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
Pastor James Kwong, guest pastor
Last Sunday of 2022.
- Dec. 26 - KCC Church office will be closed.



Kailua Christian Church (UCC)
 317 Manono St. Kailua, HI 96734-2211
 Ph: (808) 261-0125
 Email: kailuacch@gmail.com
 Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 KAILUA, HI 96734
 PERMIT NO. 568
 Return service requested

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
 OUR GUEST PASTORS
 FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**



Dec. 04 – Rev. Alpha Goto
 Dec. 11 – Pastor Clive Cowell
 Dec. 18 – Pastor J.R. Cuevas
 Dec. 24 – Pastor Alpha Goto
 Dec. 25 – Pastor James Kwong



Remember what Pastor Danny Han encouraged us to do –

Pray to your Father in Heaven that in
 everything you do - strive that
 God's name is glorified.
 God's kingdom is expanded,
 and God's will is done.
 AMEN!

Please mark your calendars to attend the Installation Services and Release ceremonies of our Officers ~ scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023.

**Proposed Slate of Officers for 2023/24
(year term ends)**

Moderator: Paul Grable (2024) *new term*
Clerk: Dennis Fong (2023) *returning*
Treasurer: Alan Yoneshige (2023) *returning*
Christian Ed: vacant
Worship: Gail Yoneshige (2024) *new term*
Missions: Kammy Grable (2024) *new term*
Deacon: Vernon Pang (2024) *new term*
 Myra Yamada (2024) *new term*
 Debbie Fong (2023) *returning*
 Florence Miyashiro (2023) *returning*
Trustee: Dean Wakuzawa (2023) *returning*
 Michelle Morikawa (2023) *returning*
 Susan Morita (2024) *new term*
 Reggie Yamada (2023) *returning*
 Maureen Wakuzawa (2023) *returning*

Releasing from service after completing their term: A big Mahalo for the faithful service of

Deacon: Lily Lee
 Winchell Lee
 Vernon Pang
 Myra Yamada
Trustee: John Sakamoto
 Susan Morita
Moderator: Paul Grable

We will be voting on those bold (2024) new term candidates only. All others are officers fulfilling their 2nd year of term. Please keep all our leaders and potential new leaders in your prayers. May their service first and foremost glorify our God.