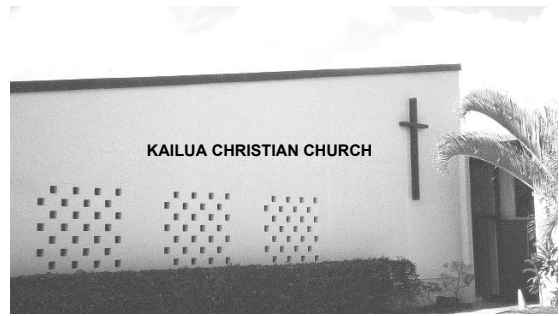


Waves of Faith

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



JANUARY 2023

Volume 38

Issue 01

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



At the beginning of 2022 Kailua Christian Church (KCC) was reeling from another setback from the Omicron version

of Covid 19 which had spiked dramatically in January 2022 and caused us to close our in-person worship again after having opened our sanctuary doors for Advent in December 2021 for our first in-person services with our newly retained settled pastor.

We had planned to go forward with our all-church planning and vision gathering in February 2022, where we had hoped to cast a vision for 2022 and into the future.

Instead, Pastor Dale needed to step down from his leadership role to recover from the grief he was experiencing from family losses that they incurred the prior year including the loss of Dale's beloved wife, Beverly.

A direct result was that we were not able to proceed with the vision casting that we had anticipated for 2022 with our new settled pastor. Instead, we were treated to a very wide variety of guest pastors sharing their messages with us throughout the balance of this past year.

KCC formed a new pastoral search committee (PSC) who have been hard at work in updating our local church profile and posting it online and contacting potential pastor candidates to fill the empty position. The KCC PSC has recently reached out to several of the local Bible schools and seminaries to expand our search beyond the UCC website listings.

I will be acting as the Moderator for KCC for a second term in 2023-24. Gail Yoneshige will be the Worship Chair leading and coordinating the Worship Team. Kammy Grable has returned to be the Missions Chair. Those two positions were vacant last year. Alan Yoneshige (treasurer), Dennis Fong (clerk), Dean Wakuzawa (trustees) and Vernon Pang (deacons) are all returning to be on the 2023 Council. The Christian Education Chairperson position remains vacant to date.

We anticipate that 2023 will again be challenging as we venture into the unknown. We plan to proceed with an all-church planning and vision retreat even if we do not have a retained pastor. We will keep you posted. Our expectations may be less focused than prior years, but it will be interesting and exciting to see what God has planned for us.

We again invite you to participate with us in areas where you are gifted and being called to serve. We are looking forward to worshiping and serving together in this new year.

Love, Aloha & Agape,
Paul Grable



Together
 **in**
Christ

DEACONS CORNER**Thoughts for This Coming New Year**

If we are to grow as believers, we must learn the importance of controlling how we think. Our thoughts in life are very powerful; it has the potential to move us into success or to drive us to absolute failure. Because of our thoughts people can reject Christ, lives can be destroyed, and relationships can be cut off. If our thoughts are not trained to consistently draw from God's Word, then our actions won't align with the Word because what we think about, we bring about.

By using the Word of God we replace our thoughts, and any other thoughts, with God's. Instead of thinking the worst, the Word helps us think the best. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Phil. 4:8, KJV).

Psalm 119 talks about knowing and living by God's Word and delighting in His commands. How much of what we think about is wasted time! God's Word needs to be prioritized. Try to gain more knowledge in the Scriptures.

Start out the new year with an openness to new experiences, memories, and blessings, having an open mind and heart to wherever the Lord may take you, with full assurance and confidence that He is with you (Matt. 28:19-20).

There is no limit to what God can do in your life; nothing is impossible with God. God opens doors that no man can shut and closes doors that no man can open. The possibilities are endless when we live according to His will (Phil. 4:13).

As we look ahead to this coming new year, we need to carve out some sacred time for "Reflections: What to keep and what to change?" To reflect simply means to "think deeply or carefully about." And I would add to do so prayerfully.

Talk to God about this past year and ask Him to show you where you've grown and what you've discovered in new ways about Him, and where there is still room for growth.

Submitted by Vernon Pang, KCC Deacon

PRAYERS & PRAISES**Please keep in your prayers**

~ The Family of Logan Spencer who had passed away while skiing recently.
 ~ Stella Wakamatsu, Jerry & Gwen Lee, Stella's son-in-law and daughter.
 ~ Pastor J.R. Cuevas, healing of his eye.
 ~ Warren and Lynne Nakano
 ~ 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
 ~ Tim Jenkins recovering from back surgery
 ~ Paul's friend, Chiquil who died on Christmas
 ~ Dean's friend, Sensi Kita
 ~ Damien Wong ~ Karen Shimizu
 ~ Jiggs Tamashiro, Walter Yeda, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Jean Kanazawa, Ruth & Harrison Lum, and all our families dealing with high risk factors along with the rest of our church family.
 Alice Esaki's brother, Albert Nakaji
 ~ Vernon's friend, Clarence Ching
 The family of the late Barrett Tuck
 Family of Mike Chu on his passing
 ~ Comfort for John Macadangdang in hospice
 ~ Aaron's daughter Marie for good health and a safe delivery.
 ~ Zoom Worship Team and in-person worship.
 ~ Prayers for our Pastoral Search Committee
 Praises for the generous contributors who have blessed KCC in so many ways this year.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jean Kanazawa
Lucy Khem
Miley Khem
Judy Yoshioka
Susan Stewart
Randall Imai
Nathan Nemoto
Jo-Ann Komori
Mary Watanabe
Thomas Gomes
Nathan Ching
Brian Nakashima
Liloa Hagmann



Terry & Joan Gerber
Robert & Romona
Maeshiro

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



TRUSTEES NOTES

Thank you to all the members who took the time to attend our congregational meeting and create a quorum which enabled us to have the 2023 Estimate of Spending approved as well as the officers with new terms. It was great to see all of you there.

We recently had Kilauea Pest Control, Inc. (Kilauea) repair all of the doors in our facility that had issues with rusty hinges, misalignment and/or needing replacement. These repairs were paid for entirely by two members who wished to remain anonymous. We also had Kilauea replace the vertical wood slats at the front of the sanctuary that had termite damage. This repair was paid for by Michelle Morikawa and her family. What a true blessing these individuals and their families have provided KCC. Thank you so very much!

We also want to thank Glenn & Debby Ogasawara and Cornerstone Air Conditioning for donating new air conditioning systems to rooms 1 & 2. These new a/cs will ensure that we have nice cool rooms to meet in, especially when the

hot summer months come up. We are so grateful for the additional air conditioning systems that were also donated for our hospitality rooms (Rms 3-4) by another anonymous donor. Thank you for these wonderful “cool” gifts.

If you have not yet turned in your 2023 pledge cards, we are still graciously accepting them. Happy New Year 2023 to ALL!

Your Trustees,
Susan, Dean, John, Reggie, Maureen and Michelle



WORSHIP NEWS

The following is called True Worship from “Experiencing God Day-By-Day” by Henry and Richard Blackaby.

But the hour is coming, and now is, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. John 4:23-24.

We are designed to worship God in spirit and in truth. As Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman at the well, He sought to help her do this by imparting to her God’s living water. (John 4:13-14).

Jesus sought out this woman personally to give her abundant life. In the same way the Father seeks an encounter with each of us that is real and personal. The Samaritan woman had heard about God; Jesus said true worship must be “face to face” with God.

Worship is not religion or ritual; worship is an intimate and vital encounter with a Person. True worship includes the full recognition of who God is: Holy, Sovereign, Almighty, Loving, Merciful. This recognition brings about the realization of our own sinfulness.

True worship is life changing! It creates within the worshiper’s heart a hatred for sin. True worship results in repentance, obedient submission, and a desire for holiness (Isa. 6:1-8). True

worship generates a desire to show mercy and to express forgiveness. It includes a joyful acceptance of all that God has provided by His grace. True worship is not exclusive. Just as the Samaritan woman rushed off to tell others of her encounter with the Lord, so true worship will compel the worshiper to include others. As a result of this woman's encounter with Jesus, many others from her village came to know him as well. The one who has truly worshiped will have a sense of peace and a confident expectation of what God is about to do. True worship produces a transformed life, reflecting the One who has been worshiped.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Grable



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

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023!

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.

**PLEASE KEEP THE MORNING OF JAN 28,
2023 OPEN FOR PASTOR WARREN
NAKANO'S PRESENTATION ON "TRUE
FAITH" FROM 10:00-11:30 A.M. IN OUR
SANCTUARY!**

Mahalo to many of you who have been praying for Pastor Warren Nakano since his kidney cancer surgery in Oct 2021 and follow-on adjuvant therapies. Please make this your priority in 2023 to hear Pastor Warren's amazing God-led cancer journey! Please join us. RSVP – email or call Kammy (kailuacch@gmail.com) or Myra (yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com).

Note: Keep everyone safe and healthy by wearing your mask!

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. **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" (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 Melissa Caballes which has the actual registration bar).

Individual Classes:

Jan 13: Fri, 9 – 11 am; Kupuna Aikido

Jan 24: Tue, 10:30 am – 12 pm; Medicare Basics

Jan 30: Mon, 11 am – 12:30 pm; Nutrition for Diabetics

Weekly Session Classes:

Jan 03 - 31: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain
Yoga Tai Chi

Jan 04 – 25: Wed, 10 – 11 am; Empower You!
(designed for people with Parkinson's)
Jan 04 - 30: Mon and Wed, 5:15 – 6:30 pm;
Zumba by Frances (in-person)
Jan 05 – 26: Thu, 11 am – 12 noon; Tripudio
Movement System with Ellie (lymphatic and fascial system)
Jan 07 – 28, Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by
Frances (in-person)
Jan 09 – 30: Mon, 8 – 9 am; Big Moves Monday!
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 be healthy and invest your time and energy
in any one of these free and informative classes.

Mahalo and God Bless! Myra



“NAME THAT AUTHOR”

It's been great being inspired by quotations offered by friends of our Newsletter for the past two years. This month we will conclude the column with the answers to our Dec. quotes and with these final two very special quotations that we hope you will appreciate and write them on your hearts.

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
(Isaiah 40:31 NRV)

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. *(Psalm 100:3-5 NIV)*

January Quotations:

1 – For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

2 – The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

Mahalo Steff Moderow, Keith Schultz, and Florence Miyashiro for your gracious input for our monthly newsletter during the past couple of years.

Happy New Year 2023
Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!
Dr. Rick Bartosik

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! means “Happy New Year” in Hawaiian. The Makahiki celebration in ancient Hawaii lasted four months! November thru February!

This new year celebration was in honor of one of their four major gods, LONO, the “god of peace.” All conflict and war was kapu (taboo) for those four months.

Captain James Cook sailed into Kealahakua Bay during the Makahiki festival in January 1778. About 10,000 Hawaiians were there to greet him and prostrate themselves before him, offering him many gifts and worshipping him.

They had a legend that LONO had once come in human form to visit them.

When LONO departed for “Kahiki” (a mysterious land that had once been their homeland), he promised to return.

They thought Captain Cook was LONO fulfilling that promise.

After Captain Cook left Kealahakua Bay, he encountered a big storm at sea and had to return to re-rig the damaged ship.
But by then the Makahiki season was over!!

The Hawaiians soon realized Captain Cook was not LONO after all, and they murdered him there

on the shores of Kealakekua Bay! A memorial stands at the very spot where he was killed.

Jesus, the true "Prince of Peace," also promised to return. But that promise is not a legend! It is really true!

When Jesus came the first time He was rejected and crucified, as the Old Testament prophets foretold! But He rose victorious from the grave, and will return in power and glory as the judge of the living and the dead. Before Him EVERY knee shall bow!

My Dad had a little plaque on his desk: "Perhaps Today."

As believers we should live each day in the hope of the soon coming of Christ.

Perhaps 2023 will be the year of His return.

In view of His coming may Paul's charge to Timothy (II Timothy 4:1-2) be taken to heart by each of us this New Year.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. II Timothy 4:1-2



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. Emergency contact info. and health details such as allergies, heart issues, etc. may be helpful and will be held in confidence unless of an emergency.

It would also be very 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!



A BIG MAHALO to Dr. Gary and Susan Morita for their generous donation of the beautiful Poinsettia Plants that decorated the sanctuary throughout this Christmas Season.



THANKING GOD FOR THESE BLESSINGS!

MISSIONS UPDATE

. Advent Candlelighting on Christmas Eve and readers sharing their stories



Family and friends enjoying each other



Gracious Pastors helping us in our time of need.



Generous friends who provided gifts



Thank You gift from East Shore Church



Excerpts from the River of Life Mission letter sent to KCC shared some insights and updates of the work that is happening with ROLM.

As we consider how God will use us in Missions this year, we hope you will pray for and listen to how we can honor him with our lives through service....

“Our view at ROLM is that people can transition off the streets, but it is so much harder when the soul is sick. But Jesus can heal! He came to heal souls. And once the soul is healed, the streets lose their luster and appearance of “a life well lived”.....

We must extend Jesus first, so Jesus can heal and create change. And this is what we love to do! In this new year, we are more dedicated than ever to see this happen here in Hawaii and beyond. And how will we do it?

1. **Being “Better Together.”** We have adjusted by going mobile and taking our meals and ministry directly to those who are hurting and homeless. We are working with more people, in more locations, and bringing together more services-all to extend Jesus’ love and better serve others.
2. **Being “All In”.** We must all be willing to help, in some way. By giving, serving, and loving our friends on the streets.
3. **Going “One by One.”** People living on the streets are struggling with a complexity of issues. This requires one-on-one care and attention. Jesus is the loving shepherd who leaves his 99 sheep to search for the one that is lost.

So let’s continue to partner together to see people healed in their **souls** by coming to know Jesus and allowing his lovingkindness to transition them off the **streets** into a life of purpose and joy.

Please pray for this ministry and how God might use you to accomplish His purposes and bring Him the glory!

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

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



Jan. 01 – Rev. Dr. Rick Bartosik
 Jan. 08 – Rev. Dale Vallejo-Sanderson
 Jan. 15 – Rev. Dr. Rick Bartosik
 Jan. 22 - TBA
 Jan. 29 – Dr. Elijah Pierick



**“To laugh often and much,
 to win the affection of children,
 to appreciate the beauty,
 to find the best in others,
 to leave the world a better place
 than we found it,
 to know even one life breathed
 easier because you lived,
 This is to have succeeded.”**

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Our Officers for 2023/24
 (year term ends)

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

*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

*Please come to show your support for these faith-
 ful volunteers who will serve KCC and you
 throughout 2023. Hope to see you there.*

