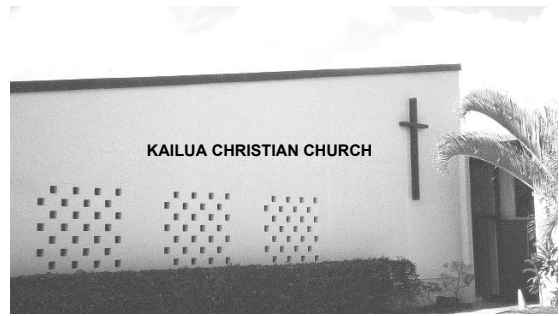


Waves of Faith

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



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FROM OUR MODERATOR

Our Pastoral Search Committee (PSC) was recently asked by a prospective pastor candidate: How much does KCC embrace the political views of the UCC and if we don't embrace them, why does KCC remain in the UCC? We were also asked about the theological doctrine of KCC. We attempted to provide answers to these questions. This article will outline a portion of our response. Let us know if you agree or disagree.

With respect to the questions about the political views of KCC, we'd like to think that each member and/or friend of KCC is entitled to take any position on any political topic that we choose and that those views and the political topics that we embrace individually are private and not any concern of KCC. KCC does not encourage our pastors to advocate political preferences while preaching or teaching.

We recognize that the UCC has decided to be very active politically by advocating for pro-gressive political causes, especially social justice. We at KCC, however, would like to remain an apolitical church. This has been very difficult to do since the 1980s when most Christian churches in the USA started to become very politically active splitting the church between those on the far right and those on the far left. It seems that very few churches are completely apolitical.

With respect to the questions about the theological doctrine of KCC, we don't believe that any one of us individually or the PSC or Council as a group can speak for everyone at KCC. We used to be able to assume that all Christian churches had the same or a similar theology and doctrine.

Having said that, we would like to think of ourselves as a mainstream evangelical Christian Church embracing all Christian churches. We are trying to remain faithful servants of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

We do not adopt the anti-evangelical left leaning Unitarian theologies which argue that the Bible is not necessarily the inspired Word of God and that all religions are valuable and equally viable. We do not believe that we are all generally good people and that unconditionally loving each other is the complete message of the Gospel.

We also do not adopt the anti-science literal interpretations of the Bible, especially the Old Testament, preached by conservative Christian leaders who seem confident they know the truth very clearly without any doubt and are quick to condemn those who do not agree with them. We do not embrace a literal, fundamental, dogmatic, and judgmental version of the Bible.

We believe that unconditional love and the actual words of Jesus are very important and that the Gospel is indeed good news. We believe that we see glimpses of the truth from the Bible and other revelations of God to us, but that our ability to see truth clearly and completely will only occur after we are raised up to be with God. We believe that producing the fruit of the spirit is a very good guide as to whether we are serving as God intends for us to serve.

We believe in the Christian teachings set out in the Apostle's creed and the Nicene creed including the deity of Jesus and the Trinity and that salvation through God's grace and His forgiveness of our sins and our transformation to becoming like Jesus are essential.

Aloha, Paul Grable, Moderator

DEACONS CORNER**Honor our Living Treasures**

“Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.” Isaiah 46:4

Some people struggle with the thought of growing older. But growing older is truly a blessing from God. Every day people wake up knowing more than they did the day before. And each day is another opportunity to share what was learned to those who are still growing and learning the ways of this world. The historical knowledge of a person who has lived many years of life is like a secret treasure not found in any book, ready to share in the teachable moments of life. The invaluable experience and wisdom that is gained and shared over the years serve as inspiration for future generations. Even the wisest king of all, King Solomon, and his son King Rehoboam consulted the elders for advice (1 Kings 12:6). Yes, aging is a beautiful gift from God.

Our elderly answer to many names - call them aunties, uncles, kupuna, seniors, elders, or living treasures (my personal favorite). But whatever name they answer to, we know what God calls them – his good and faithful servants.

Here at Kailua Christian Church we are blessed to be surrounded by our living treasures. Even when, due to difficult circumstances they are not able to attend Sunday worship services in person, they often stream in via zoom. We have been inspired in many ways by the older folks. Different individuals bring with them a variety of different experiences and skills and we are fortunate to have them shared with us.

Our seniors are generous. They give of their time, their love, their prayers and their concern for others. They are positive role models and set examples for us to strive for. They share with us the value of journaling. They teach us skills (sewing, cooking, listening, handyman) and provide inspiration (Senior Olympics, positive and can-do attitudes). They ask about family and surprise us with unexpected phone calls, showing that they

care. They even demonstrate and model recycling (turning old paper into scratch pads, old cupcake containers into strawberry mochi holders, old Christmas cards into little giftboxes). But most importantly, they share their faith and trust in God with us. KCC kupuna inspire us to do and be better. To be more like Christ. They show us what a life devoted to God looks like.

All are invited to join us on Sunday, April 23 for our worship service and lunch when we will celebrate our kupuna. If you are not able to attend in person you may join via zoom. Contact the church office if you do not have access to the zoom link.

Bento lunches will be provided for all attendees. A sign-up sheet will be available on Sunday, or you may RSVP to the church office **no later than Wednesday, April 12**. Please let us know when you RSVP the type of bento preferred - **vegetarian** (cold somen, kabocha, tofu patties, sushi) or **deluxe** (chicken, beef, shrimp tempura, salmon).

Please join us as we honor our living treasures and let them know how much we appreciate and love them.

Debbie Fong, Deacon

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

- ~ Jonathan Fong
- ~ Lois Shinsato
- ~ Chu in the Philippines healing from car accident. (Harvey's brother-in-law).
- ~ Maureen Wakuzawa & family on the loss of Relative Alvin Matsumoto
- ~ Healing for John Araki's broken leg
- ~ Stella Wakamatsu, Son in law, Jerry and daughter, Gwen
- ~ Pastor Warren and Lynne Nakano
- ~ Dot Suzuki
- ~ Nani Oda
- ~ John Sakamoto, for his son-in-law, Tony Sarabia and Coreen (John's daughter)
- ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health
- ~ Warren Imada
- ~ Henry Tom
- ~ Sharon Nishihira
- ~ Kira Chong
- ~ Vici in Hospice
- ~ Sharon Mon
- ~ Lily & Winchell Lee
- ~ Steve Hammann



~ Sharon's friend, Erin ~ Larry & Sandra Siu
 ~ Harrison Lum and family on the loss of his beloved wife, Ruth. (Funeral set for May.)
 ~ Dennis & Maureen Nakashima
 ~ Damien Wong ~ Karen Shimizu
 ~ Jiggs Tamashiro, Walter Yeda, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Jean Kanazawa, 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
 ~ For the family of Debbie's, Aunt Helen in Oregon who passed away after covid illness.
 ~ Zoom Worship Team and in-person worship.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jonathan Martinez
 Pauline Vioria
 Vernon Pang
 Larry Takumi
 James Todd
 Michael Sakaba
 Cleo Nham



Kammy Grable
 Madison Maeshiro
 Jennie Lee
 Emily Pang
 Wilma Chung



ANNIVERSARY

Lowell & Myrtle Terada
 Alan & Linda Umetsu
 Dr. Cary & Karen Miyahira
 Richard & Jane Tengan



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

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

On Saturday, March 25, 14 members and friends were blessed by Mrs. Jenna Tanigawa's AED Institute of America's CPR/AED excellent refresher training workshop. Not only was the event a refresher with hands-on practice, but it was a blessed reunion of Jenna and her favorite 6th grade teacher, Gail Yoneshige. Pictured here are: Alan, Jenna and Gail and a group shot that included two who we have missed seeing in person since

Covid-19, Johnny and Robert. Missing: Debbie, Jennie and Kammy are missing from group pic.



Upcoming: May 27, 2023, 10-11:30 am: "Eating for Your Genes" with 30+ years veteran Dietician Caroline Hamatake (Joyful Nutrition); 10 – 11:30; synopsis to be provided in May's newsletter.

Windward Community College: Chef Dan Swift is announcing two non-credit Summer Baking Camps I and II (Yeast Breads and Cookies). Cost is \$210 per person, per session (2 days); Open to youth ages 13 and over with parental consent; limited seating. Location: WCC, Hale Akoakoa Cafeteria

Dates: Camp I: June 13-14 and June 26-27 and Camp II: dates to be determined.

Register by going to website: <https://windwardcce.org/cooking>

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.

If this is your first time signing up for classes, please contact me (Myra). I will send you the

email from Melissa Caballes which has the actual registration bar to register. Contact Melissa Caballes if you have questions or are having difficulty enrolling; 808-547-8138; mcaballes@stfrancishawaii.org.

Individual Classes:

Apr 13: Thu, 11 – 12 pm; New! Financial Education and Estate Planning: A Conversation with Caine Nakata, Foundation for Financial Education Hawaii Chapter

Apr 18: Tue, 5 – 6 pm; New! Food as Medicine: Setting the Course for Brain Health

Apr 19: Wed, 10 – 11:30; Medicare Basics

Apr 25 – May 09: Tue, 10 – 11:30 am; He Ola Po'olela: Achieving Financial Security in an Uncertain World (three-part personal finance workshop for caregivers, kupuna and kamaaina)

Weekly Session Classes:

Apr 01 - 29: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Frances (in-person/no class on Apr 08)

Apr 03 – 28: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:30 pm; Zumba by Frances (in-person/no class on Apr 07)

Apr 04 - 25: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Apr 05 - 26: Wed, 8 – 9 am; Empower You! (designed for people with Parkinson's)

Apr 06 - 27: Thu, 9 – 10 am; Tripudio Movement System with Ellie (lymphatic and fascial system)

Apr 10 - 24: Mon, 8 – 9 am; Big Moves Monday! (no class on Apr 03)

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

Contact me at [yamadamya@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com) or call (808) 348-2297 if you have questions.

Please invest your time and energy in any one of these free and informative classes.

Mahalo, Stay Healthy and God Bless! Myra



WORSHIP NOTES

from Gail Yoneshige

Singing is a big part of worship! As we celebrate Palm Sunday, Holy Week, culminating with Easter, one of my favorite praise songs is “Majesty” by Jack Hayford.

“Majesty, worship His majesty, unto Jesus be glory, honor and praise.

Majesty, Kingdom authority, flow from His throne, unto His own, His anthem raise!

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus, magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King...

Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all Kings!”

God sent His son, Jesus, that we all may be saved and have eternal life! We can worship him every day on our own but what a privilege we have to freely gather and worship as a body of believers! While many in other parts of the world face persecution, we are blessed to worship without fear. Join us in fellowship and worship our God, Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

NEWS from the HCUCC OFFICE

As you may already know, the Hawai'i Conference UCC and the Hawai'i Conference Foundation is moving. Please note the change of address also applies to the O'ahu Association:

700 Bishop Street, Suite 825
Honolulu, HI 96813.

As a reminder, the move itself will take place April 10 (yes, the day after Easter!) with the office being closed to visitors from April 2 through April 16. Please note that we are anticipating our computer and phone systems to be down from April 5 and looking forward to being reconnected on April 11.

And don't forget to mark your calendars for the O'ahu Spring Mokupuni on Saturday, May 20, 2023. More information to come.

From Lori Yamashiro Office Coordinator
Hawai'i Conference United Church of Christ
Office: 808-791-5645



**Please attend the
Congregational Meeting on
Sunday, April 16 when we
will vote on accepting the
2022 Annual Report.**

**A copy can be obtained at
our website or by calling the office.**

ON A MISSION FOR THINGS THAT MATTER

As mission ministry coordinator I was recently invited to IHS to visit a new site they were opening at their Dillingham location, ‘Imi Ola Piha” a Homeless Triage Center. Imi Ola Piha (To Seek One’s Fullest Life) is providing stabilization, detox, and hope for chronically homeless individuals.

I often think about these wonderful people who are willing to be out there making a difference and being there for those who need a helping hand. These are people who believe in second chances and even more. I’m thankful for them as they give their love and care for the many in our community who are often forgotten, avoided or ignored.

We live in a broken world, and it can be scary. We often don’t feel we can be of help to the broken people or we choose not to do what is needed. May I offer encouragement to take the opportunity to think of how you might be able to help this ministry with prayer, financial resources, donating goods listed on their wishlist, or volunteering with their many ministry efforts. They provide us with various ways to help.

The Institute for Human Services (IHS) helps end or avert homelessness for over 6,000 residents of Oahu each year. Established in 1978, IHS is the most comprehensive non-profit human services agency in the state with a primary focus on addressing homelessness. Their mission is to create and offer tailored solutions for those in crisis, and nurture homeless people toward greater self-direction and responsibility. Beyond food and shelter, IHS offers supportive services that allow individuals to reconnect, heal, and succeed.

KCC has supported this outreach ministry for many years and hopefully we will continue to do so. Please keep Connie Mitchell, Executive Director, in your prayers as she continues the great work with her team. May we too be a blessing in the name of Jesus.

Mahalo for your consideration, Kammy Grable

Statement of Faith of HIM Ministry

Submitted to newsletter as some information on what **Hawaiian Island Ministries** believes. We look forward to HIM growing and blessing Hawaii and beyond for another 40 years.

Please keep Pastor Dan Chun and his wife, Pam in your prayers as they focus full-time on this ministry. Pastor Dan has stepped down as Pastor at First Pres Church to give all his attention to HIM.

- There is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, Holy and inspired by God, of supreme and final authority in faith and life.
- God the Father sent us his Son, Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, who was born of a virgin. He lived a sinless life. His death on the cross provided our redemption. He was bodily resurrected and ascended into heaven and has a present ministry of intercession for us. We look forward to His return in power and glory.
- God created humans to have fellowship with Him, but they defied God by sinfully going their own way. As a result, every human needs God’s saving grace to end this alienation from Him. Salvation comes only through saving grace, trusting in Jesus Christ alone—not human effort and must be received personally by repentance and faith.
- The Holy Spirit is involved in the miracle of the conversion of an unbeliever and indwells believers, enabling them to live a Godly life.

Among many offices, the Holy Spirit equips believers for personal growth service to the church. The church’s role is to glorify God and serve those in need.

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



April 2 – Rev. Dr. Rick Bartosik

April 9 – Chaplain Clive Cowell

April 16 – Hilary Eash

April 23 – Rev. Chris Eng

April 30 – Dr. Ruby Ovitt



“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” Jeremiah 3:15 (ESV)

We praise God for his ongoing blessing and care in supplying these awesome pastors. It is an honor having them with us!

**FOR
GOD
SO
LOVED THE WORLD
HE
GAVE
HIS
ONLY
SON**

*May this Easter be the start of new life for
you and yours!*

