

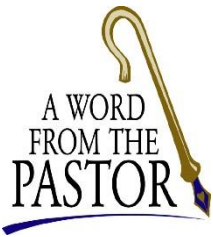
Waves of Faith

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



APRIL 2024

Volume 39



“In a loud voice they were saying: Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

-Revelations 5:12

Dear KCC Ohana,

The world seems increasingly steeped in despair and hopelessness, and loneliness, depression, and self-harm among our youth increase in regularity. This hopelessness seeps into our emptying churches nationwide. It grieves my heart to witness the plight of many churches around us that are succumbing to the pressures of decline and despair.

Yet, I am encouraged that KCC is steadfast in its faithfulness that Easter will come. It is imperative that we, as a congregation, stand firm in our belief that Jesus Christ is indeed the Lamb who was slain and yet reigns supreme over all creation. It is in this belief that our hope is anchored, and our joy is made complete. No matter what happens in the coming months and years, we will have the ability to look back on this time together knowing that we said “yes!” to fully believing Jesus could deliver us from the death and despair in our world. Even if our plans don’t work out as we intend, we will know that our efforts went into knowing our God is the best of planners and will make beauty out of the faith we put in Him.

In this blessed assurance of God’s Easter triumph, let us be a beacon of light amidst the darkness, dear brothers, and sisters. Let us be an example of light overcoming the darkness through our faith in Him. Let us boldly proclaim the truth that Jesus Christ has overcome the world, and there is no obstacle too great for Him to conquer.

May this truth resonate within our hearts and minds, inspiring us to press on with renewed vigor and determination. For we serve a God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, and nothing is impossible for those who believe. With unwavering hope and joy in our hearts, let us continue to journey together in faith, trusting in the power of our risen Savior to bring about transformation and renewal in our lives and in our congregation.

Grace and peace be unto you from our Lord Jesus Christ, who reigns victorious over all things.

In His service and with much love,

Pastor Irene



DEACONS CORNER**Membership**

Revival Classes were held over three Sundays in February and March. Otherwise known as Membership Classes, they were geared to introduce and educate potential (and current) members of Kailua Christian Church and what it means to be a member of KCC.

At the classes we played an ice breaker game to get to know each other better. We made new friends and even learned new things about old friends. We also gleaned the heart of KCC after reading articles from “Memories”, a collection of articles written by friends and members published in celebration of KCC’s 50 th anniversary. Pastor Timothy Weible wrote that these memories “helped to shape us into the people that we are today”. We also learned about and discussed the history of the United Church of Christ, our own Kailua Christian Church and its by-laws. We journaled together and shared our thoughts. Most importantly we discussed what it means to be baptized and to be a member of KCC.

The sacrament of baptism, when an individual professes faith in Christ, is familiar to us all. But what about becoming a member of a church? At KCC being a member holds special responsibilities. Our bylaws define membership as “one who has been received into this Church, shows his/her concern for the church through regular attendance at worship, prayer on its behalf, financial contribution, participation in the church programs, or other evidence of interest sufficient to the Church. Only members can vote at business meetings and can hold elective offices.” Becoming a member means you are joining a family. We are committed to each other and to our community; we uphold, support and are accountable to each other.

That being said, we are overjoyed to welcome 4 new members into our fold. Welcome Matthew(Matt) Wong, Aianna (Pie Pie) Wong,

June Cunningham, and Harvey Lee. We love you, we celebrate with you and we vow to support each other as we go forth along our faith journey.

“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” Romans 12:4-5

Debbie Fong, Deacon

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

- ~ Terumi and Rev. Howard Yoshida
- ~ Barney’s co-worker and family
- ~ Barney Pilla for continued healing
- ~ Jean Kanazawa ~ Lia Lau
- ~ Tim Ishihara ~ Darren Navarre
- ~ Jennie Lee ~ Pastor Dan Chun
- ~ Nathan Kohashi ~ Warren & Lynne Nakano
- ~ Harvey’s co-workers husband, Ray
- ~ Matt’s Grandma’s surgery and healing
- ~ Carrie Grable ~ Dusty Grable
- ~ Pastor’s Uncle Leon in England, surgery
- ~ John Sakamoto, son-in-law, Tony Sarabia and Coreen and Cheryl (John’s daughters)
- ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health
- ~ Damien Wong ~ George (Keoki) Fisher
- ~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann
- ~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Harrison Lum
- ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Ed & Noelani Jai
- ~ Winchell & Lily Lee ~ Richard Texiera
- ~ Karen Shimizu ~ Dennis Jinnohara
- ~ Jean Miyaji, Alice Esaki, Walter Yeda, Stella Wakamatsu, Nani Oda, Nancy Arakaki, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Sharon Mon, Dot Suzuki, Saeko Yoshida and all our families w/ high-risk health factors.
- ~ Both Maureen & Dean Wakuzawa’s mom’s recovery from their falls.
- ~ for all who are affected by the wars and its casualties.
- ~ John and Diane Mendenhall
- ~ Prayers for our Worship Team & Musicians



With Deepest Sympathy

Please keep in your prayers
The following people who
have passed and we would
like to send our condolences and sincere prayers
for the family and friends and loved ones who
are grieving.



~ Henry Tom
~ Jo Ann Takahashi
~ David Tengan Sr.

~ Roger Sagre
~ Mary Mattos

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Jonathan Martinez	Jared Higashi
Pauline Vilorio	Madison Maeshiro
Vernon Pang	Jennie Lee
Larry Takumi	Emily Pang
Michael Sakaba	April Jessee
Cleo Nham	Wilma Chung
Carl Takahashi	
Kammy Grable	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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

WORSHIP NEWS



Worship April 2024
Newsletter Article – *Posted
in Theology of Worship,
Service Planning and Spiritual Development
May 1, 2018, by Vince Wilcox*

Just as the Jewish feast of Passover found its fullest expression in the Lord's Supper, fifty days later the feast of Pentecost would be remembered as the day God poured his Holy

Spirit into a bewildered group of disciples, transforming them into bold and compassionate world-changers. Since then, God's people have celebrated Pentecost as the "birthday of the church."

Jerusalem, God's holy city, was ground zero for this defining moment. The Lord had torn the veil of the holy of holies from top to bottom, moving his residency from a temple built by human hands to the hearts of believers consecrated by the blood of his Son, the Lamb of God. These Spirit-led witnesses would move outward in ever-expanding circles from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.

Here are four things Luke's account of Pentecost in Acts 2 can teach us about true worship:

1. True worship requires obedience and prayer

Before ascending to heaven, Christ commanded his disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait until his Father sent the Comforter (Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5). Days later, the Holy Spirit came upon them when they were gathered in one place—presumably in one accord and in prayer. God blesses our worship when we conform our hearts to his Word and his Spirit. Worship is not our work for him; rather, from first to last, worship is God's work in and through us. Obedience and prayer precede true worship.

2. God's presence can be unpredictable and disconcerting.

It's one thing to seek God's will, but quite another for God's supernatural power and presence to break into our reality. At Pentecost, God intended the mighty wind, tongues of fire, and speaking in other tongues to be dramatic. To be honest, I can feel uncomfortable when God does something in a worship service that's not printed in the bulletin—but Pentecost teaches us to expect the unexpected. Those in attendance at Pentecost were amazed and perplexed and

asked each other, “What does this mean?” (v. 12). God’s presence will surprise, confuse, confront, and ultimately transform us.

3. True worship transcends race, culture, gender, and age.

At Pentecost, people from all over the world heard the gospel in their own languages (vv. 6-8). In the sermon that followed, Peter preached that God’s Spirit would be poured out upon sons and daughters, young and old alike (v. 17). True worship is inclusive and expansive in its reach, style, and attitude. It seeks the widest expression in the most personal terms. There is a “both/and” about worship that gives us freedom to bless God in our own cultural context while creating a setting for our sisters and brothers (and mothers and fathers) to do so in a way that also resonates with them.

4. True worship results in a hunger for God’s Word and desire to serve others.

If worship is our response to God’s revelation of himself, then true worship can’t be restricted to what happens in a worship service. Luke describes the post-Pentecostal church as defined by biblical teaching, fervent prayer, the Lord’s Table, frequent miracles, deep fellowship, profound generosity, and sustained growth (vv. 42-47). True worship requires that we engage our world as well as extol our Lord.

Even though some Christian traditions differ on the specifics of how God’s Spirit chooses to work, the church is united in her understanding that the Spirit is the catalyst for salvation, the means for sanctification, and the power that preserves, guides, and glorifies the redeemed. Indeed, the Holy Spirit is heavenly oxygen that infuses the believer with life.

This Pentecost, whatever our denominational distinctive, let’s celebrate the coming of the

Holy Spirit and his comfort, peace, and compassion. And as we worship, let’s embody the lessons exemplified at that first Pentecost after Christ’s resurrection.



Sunday, May 19

NEWS from your



When we learned of Jiggs Tamashiro’s passing, we thought about the history of how KCC got started; how a small group of Christian faithfuls got together and managed to acquire the land, took out loans to build the church, and raised money to pay off the loans, by setting up a continuous building fund drive. As the membership grew larger, so did the tithes and offerings, and with the generosity of the KCC membership, they managed to pay off the loans in record time. They were even able to build an adjoining annex (office and library). Once all loans were paid off, they kept the continuous building fund drive going to ensure sufficient funds were available to maintain the facilities.

As years passed, however, the congregation got smaller and older; some were unable to participate in worship services or activities due to illness and death, while others moved on to other callings. As a result, tithes and offerings decreased substantially. Unfortunately, after nearly 60 years, KCC facilities are showing signs of aging and in dire need of maintenance and repair before the facilities deteriorate beyond repair. Due to insufficient/limited building funds, we find it difficult to fund the high-cost maintenance and repair work such as parking lot repaving, fencing/gates repair/replacement, drainage improvements, electrical/lighting systems upgrades, restrooms renovations, roof

maintenance, windows repair/replacement, and internal/exterior painting.

Therefore, reflecting on the Charter members and those who joined soon thereafter, we should not forget about the time, money, and effort they put into the church and their determination to keep KCC strong and vibrant. We cannot allow the KCC facilities to deteriorate beyond repair, for their sake, as well as ours, to ensure that we can have a place of worship that is warm, safe, and welcoming (like our membership) which can be achieved, in part, if we have well maintained facilities.

So, fellow members and friends of KCC, the Trustees would like to implement a Continuous Building Maintenance Fund (CBMF) drive in lieu of an annual building fund drive to ensure that we are able to raise sufficient funds to start tackling the backlog of high-cost maintenance and repair projects. Your generosity, in this time of need, will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to support this huge undertaking, please annotate "Continuous Building Maintenance Fund" on your check.

Finally, may we leave you with this scripture from 2 Corinthians 9:6-8: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

Thank you for your generosity.

God Bless You!
Trustees

A BIG MAHALO TO THE WORK CREW FOR THE GREAT JOB THEY DID ON WORKDAY AT KCC. Special shout out to Zoe Naso, Shelby Lai, Raphael Stark, Sheri Wong, and Christian Schroppel!

A very special thank you goes out to Matt and Pie Pie Wong for working with Pastor Irene to coordinate the clean up of some much needed spring cleaning upstairs. Matt brought some awesome friends from his Youth Ministry group, and Pie Pie's mom also showed up and really made some really great progress in preparing the facilities for our summer ministry Service Learning Community. It was also great to see Nani, Florence, Barney, Vernon, Dennis, Jennie, Debbie, John John, and Katelyn working as a team to get so much done. You did well dear friends! It was obvious that you gave it your best! Thank you for honoring God with your hard work--And blessing us all here at KCC through your awesome service.





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

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

Safe Falling for Kūpuna, taught by **Mr. Dennis Jinnohara**, was an outstanding Presentation/performance! We thoroughly enjoyed learning the principles of safe falling to help preserve and protect one's mobile independence! **According to Dennis and the Kūpuna Aikido website, "the best way to achieve "safe falling," is NOT to fall. The basic formula for fall prevention is ABC.**

"A is for awareness. develop a different mindset to walking. Walk "heel to toe." Lift your legs as you walk, land on your heel, and push off with your toes. Whenever using stairs, use the handrail. Pay attention when walking. Look where you will be walking and make a mental note of any potential hazards. Don't be distracted while walking: smart phones, talking to your partner or looking at the "view".

B is for balance. Exercise to develop the muscles in all of your limbs. Consider activities like Tai-Chi and Yoga to develop strength and brain to muscle connections.

C is control. Take the safer or easier path even though it may be longer. Use handrails. Have handrails and grab bars installed in your bathroom."

Thanks to the "decades long" friendship that **Kammy and Paul** share with **Dennis Jinnohara**, we were able to benefit from his super fun & excellent presentation! Dennis is a volunteer instructor for **Kūpuna Aikido**. If you are interested in participating in an 8-week **Safe Falling** class, sign up on via their website: <https://www.kupunaaikido.com>.



Other Na Anela Dates to Reserve on Your Calendar:

May 25 (4th Sat) – CPR/AED Refresher – Jenna Tanigawa, AED Institute of America, Operations Manager. Rooms 3 and 4 (in-person only)

Jul 27 (4th Sat) – Anatomy of a Cyber Attack and Cyber Security Best Practices, Aaron Tanaka, Aaron Tanaka, Honolulu Community College (HCC) Computer, Security & Networking Technologies Professor (retired); sanctuary.

Sep 28 (4th Sat) – Finding Joy Amidst Chronic Pain, Aianna (Pie Pie) Wong, Registered Behavioral Therapist for Autistic Children, All About Behavior LLC; sanctuary.

Nov 18 (3rd Sat) – TBD

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

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

April 2024 classes can be found at: <https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/s/courses>.

Register directly online. For questions, please contact **Kaui Asing (808) 547-8092** or kasing@stfrancishawaii.org.

Individual Classes:

Apr 11: Thu, 11 am – 12 noon; Living Well with Parkinsons (virtual)

Apr 12: Fri, 10 – 11:30 am; Medicare Basics (virtual)

Apr 19: 9 am – 12 noon; NEW! Care Camp (in-person); workshop fee: \$10.00

Apr 25: Thu, 9:30 – 11:30 am; Koi Nobori (Japanese carp kites; in-person)

Weekly Session Classes:

Apr 01 – 29: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:15 pm; Zumba by Frances

Apr 01 – 29: Mon, Wed and Fri, 5:15 – 6:16 pm; 8 – 8:45 am; Big Moves! Monday (focus on people with Parkinsons)

Apr 02 – 30: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Apr 03 – 24: Wed, 8 – 8:45 am; Empower You!

Apr 04 – 25: Thu, 2:30 – 3:15 pm; In-person Zumba Gold by Frances

Apr 06 – 27: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Francis

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 “mostly” free and informative classes.

Commit to your Wellness Journey and Stay Healthy in 2024!

God Bless you all, Myra



CELEBRATION NOTES FROM EASTER



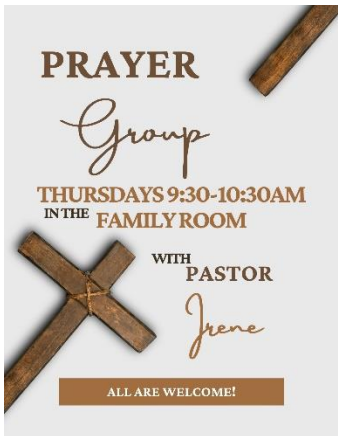
Mahalo to Aunty Nani and Matt for joining in on the joyous songs of praise on Easter morning. It was a blessing to hear some of our favorite hymns shared in partnership of piano and guitar music! Hoping for an encore sometime!



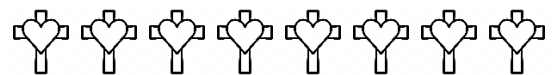
Laying of hands on our new members



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 Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org
 Rev. Irene Willis Hassan, Senior Pastor

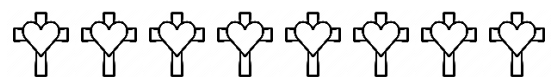


Join Pastor Irene on Thursday mornings at The Plaza in Kaneohe – 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for a great time of fellowship. The group will be meeting on Thurs. mornings April 4, 18, and 25. All are welcome to attend.



In an effort to be better stewards with resources available to us, we encourage you to check out our website at www.kailuachristianchurch.org for a copy of our monthly newsletter. We will be more than happy to send it to your email address if you provide us with your current email or send it via snail mail if you request it. We love sharing with all our friends and family what is happening in the life of the church. Please let us know your wishes. Mahalo.

Friendly reminder: Please contact the office or your deacon in case of an emergency. Rev. Dale Vallejo-Sanderson will be our guest pastor for worship on Apr. 7 and 14th.



MAHALO to

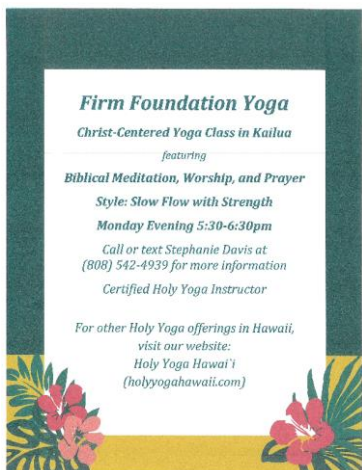
Dr. Gary and Susan Morita for providing the beautiful Lilies for Easter worship.

Keith Schultz for doing some handyman jobs around the church as an offering to God.

Annie Sagawa for providing beautiful plants for our altar during worship.

Barney Pilla and Jennie Lee for the great Easter breakfast that they coordinated and served.

All our helpers for worship during March!



Holy Yoga is now meeting at Kailua Christian Church on Monday evenings – 5:30 p.m. Bring your mat and join them.