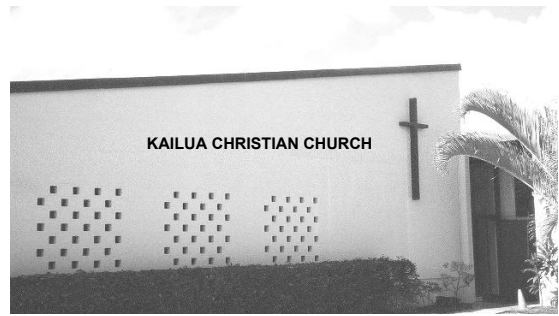


Waves of Faith

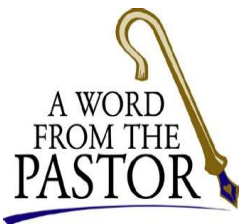
Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Chartered 1959 –



APRIL 2025

Volume 40

Issue 04



Dear KCC Ohana,

This March, as we journeyed through the Lenten season toward Easter, we held a deeply meaningful retreat that not only strengthened our bonds as a faith community but also provided an opportunity for new attendees to take the next step in their journey with us. Just as Easter proclaims resurrection and new life, so too does the movement of the Spirit in our church. As a result, we anticipate welcoming 10 new members into our congregation on Easter Sunday—a testament to God’s transforming work among us.

Looking back, our membership when I started in 2023 stood at 120. However, as outlined in our bylaws, at least a third of that number had been inactive for a significant period and were accordingly removed from the rolls, leaving us with 78 active members. Additionally, we mourned the passing of two beloved members, bringing our total to 76.

Yet, even in the face of these adjustments, God is bringing new life into our church. In 2024, we welcomed 5 new members, and with 10 joining from our retreat in 2025 (double the amount of new members from 2024), we will have gained 15 new members in just a year and a half. That’s a 20% increase—evidence of God’s hand at work!

This growth is more than numbers; it is a reflection of God’s faithfulness. In Acts 2:47, we read, “And the Lord added to their number daily

those who were being saved.” Just as the early church experienced the Spirit drawing people into their community, we too are witnessing God breathing new life into our congregation. The story of Easter is not just about what happened at the empty tomb—it is about the ongoing resurrection we experience as a people of faith.

Our church is not only surviving—it is rising. The relationships we are building, the lives we are touching, and the faith we are nurturing are signs that God is leading us into a future filled with hope and purpose. May we continue to be a place where all are welcomed, lives are transformed, and the love of Christ is made known.

With resurrection hope,

Pastor Irene

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE IN CHRIST



Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025
Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025
(Tenebre Service w/soup) 6:00 p.m. at KCC)
Easter Sunrise at the Beach, TBA
Easter Breakfast at KCC, April 20, 2025
8:30 a.m. (Potluck Dishes welcomed and
bring flowers to decorate our Cross)
Easter Service with Reception of New Members
10:00 a.m. worship service
Egg Hunt for the children following worship.

DEACONS CORNER

Kailua Christian Church
Benevolence Fund



Galatians 6:10 "Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone, especially to our Christian brothers and sisters".

The purpose of Kailua Christian's Church (KCC) Benevolence Fund is to lend a helping hand to members, members' family, friends and the community in general, by providing financial support.

If you know of anyone having difficulties paying for rent, utilities, or miscellaneous needs, KCC's Benevolence Fund can be a God-send gift for the individual. This program is administered by the Board of Deacons who will request congregational donations, at specific times, as needed.

The application process is fairly simple:

--Ask your deacon (Debbie Fong, Florence Miyashiro, or Myra Yamada) or the church office (Kammy Grable/808-261-0125) for the application form.

--Complete all required information which will include a short paragraph explaining one's financial situation that is prompting you to apply.

--Attach a copy of the bill and a pictured ID with the completed application and drop off the packet with Kammy.

If mailing in application, send to:

Kailua Christian Church
317 Manono Street
Kailua, HI 96734

Attention: Board of Deacons

--Your application will be reviewed by two committee deacons (Debbie and Myra) and an interview will be scheduled in a timely manner, depending on availability of deacons and applicant.

--Each applicant's interview is kept confidential and when request is approved, the billing company is contacted by the deacons and a check (signed by the two deacons) is mailed directly to the company.

Partial rent, partial insurance payment and utility bills are examples of past payments. Each applicant can receive financial help only one time per calendar year.

We look forward to helping individuals meet their financial needs!

Mahalo and God Bless! Deacon Myra

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Jonathan Martinez
Miki Vilorio
Vernon Pang
Larry Takumi
Michael Sakaba
Kammy Grable

Madison Maeshiro
Jennie Lee
Emily Pang

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Lowell & Myrtle Terada
Dr. Cary & Karen Miyahira

**MAY BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES**

Lia Lau	Jo Ann Komori &
Lily Lee	Larry Takumi
Mason Maeshiro	22 Randy & Cindy
Winchell Lee	Imai

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

~ John Sakamoto's son in law, Tony & daughter, Coreen & John's son, Clifford in the hospital with Pneumonia.
~ Stan Higa and Chris Higa ~ Dave Knight
~ Julia who has cancer ~ Lia & Curtis Lau
~ Dot's friend's husband Bozo w/ health issues
~ The Yamauchi's loss of daughter, Ann
~ Maureen's (b-i-l) Lane having heart surgery
~ Deanne Ogasawara's shoulder surgery.
~ Rev. Howard Yoshida & Ohana
~ Nathan Kohashi ~ Jean Kanazawa
~ Claire Steele ~ Harrison Lum
~ Pie Pie Wong ~ Jennifer Lee



~ Gary & Susan Morita ~ Jennie Lee
 ~ Mai's mom w/cancer & father w/ dementia
 ~ Saeko Yoshida ~ Joy, (2nd heart attack)
 ~ KCC Neighbor Alicia w/ 2 dogs, moving.
 ~ Bill Cunningham ~ Joel & Stacey Vega
 ~ Joe w/ brain tumor, cancer & Sue w/ cancer
 ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada ~ Kathe Warner
 ~ Heather, Jake, & family for healing
 ~ Dean's friends, Gary & Greg's recoveries
 ~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann
 ~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Dennis Jinnohara
 ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Duane Miyashiro
 ~ Winchell & Lily Lee ~ Richard Texiera
 ~ Jean Miyaji, Alice Esaki, Nani Oda, Nancy Arakaki, Harry Imai, Carl Nemoto, Dot Suzuki, Sharon Mon, and all our high risked families
 ~ Congratulations to Mia Watanabe for receiving rookie of the year award at work. Great Job!

Deepest Sympathy go out to the Yoshida Ohana on the loss of Terumi Yoshida, beloved late wife of Rev. Howard who was our Senior Pastor here at KCC in the 70's. The Yoshidas served KCC so faithfully for many years and continued to do so through 2024 whenever we had a need. Terumi was credited for successfully developing our Preschool and fellowship programs and was a gifted artist. We are ever so grateful for their humble and loving service here at KCC. Memorial Services for Terumi will be held at Nuuanu Memorial Park and Mortuary on June 7th. Visitation will be at 9:00 a.m. with service to follow at 10:00 a.m. Please keep the family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of this precious woman of God, loving wife, wonderful mom and dear friend of many here at KCC.

Deepest Condolences to Pauline (Miki) Vilorio and her family on the loss of her husband John. John passed away on March 2nd. Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, June 29th, 2 p.m. at Rainbow Pavillion. Pauline is a member of KCC and the daughter of charter members, Minoru and Kay Teruya. Please keep the family in your prayers. Pauline will be moving to CA.

Sincere Sympathies to Pastor Chris & Cheri on the loss of his mother-in-law, Michiko who died on Mar. 3rd. Please pray for their family.

TRUSTEES NOTES

Members and Friends of KCC,

KCC Financial Information:
 (Balances through 2/28/25)

Income: \$ 25,989.00 (Total Budget Income)
 Expenses: \$ 24,781.23 (Total Operating Expenses)

Total Cash: \$ 221,828.85 (Total Resources in the savings and checking accounts)

General Fund: \$ 190,354.05 (Available Resources, excluding special funds and grants)

2025 Budget:

The 2025 Budget was approved by the Congregation at the annual Congregation meeting which was held on December 15, 2024. However, due to comments received during and after the meeting, the 2025 Budget was amended and presented to and was approved by the Congregation at a special meeting held on Feb. 23, 2025.

Maintenance/Repair Projects:

Aaron Tanaka has been working on upgrading the Sanctuary lighting system. After doing research on the dimmer control system and contacting vendors for information, the proposal is to replace the dimmer control module with an up-to-date module. Thank you Aaron!

Matt Wong will be upgrading the Sanctuary audio system by replacing the antiquated audio system with state-of-the-art audio equipment, e.g., digital mixer, digital stage box, microphone, appurtenances. Thank you Matt!

The hinges of Classroom 2 double door (right side door) broke off the door. Pastor Irene called Sean Baerman and asked if he could repair the door. Sean came by right away and fixed the door hinges. Thank you Sean!

Church Stewardship:

Church stewardship is the wise use of God's resources (tithes, offerings, time, talents, people and finances) to achieve God's purpose. Everything we have belongs to God and it is our

responsibility to manage these resources in a way that honors Him. Church stewardship also involves recognizing that our resources are not ours alone; they are given to us by God for the purpose of furthering His kingdom on earth. We are called to be faithful stewards of the resources God has entrusted us with. Reference: "A Detailed Guide to Church Stewardship" Tithely.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10, NIV

God Bless You All!
Trustees

MISSIONS NEWS

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special offering of the United Church of Christ. This

Lenten initiative provides support for disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Now more than ever your help is needed to respond to the immediate needs around the world. Please consider supporting this offering that we will receive during the season of Lent. For more information, go to

<https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churches-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/>.

Mahalo for your generous support.



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

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

March 22 (4th Sat), 2025: Eight (8) members and friends spent their Saturday morning totally focused on honing their skills and teamwork under the excellent tutelage of Joel Acevedo, Operations Manager at AED Institute of America. Joel, who has acquired many credentials as a master diver in Chile, while working many years in teaching lifesaving skills. Mahalo Joel!!

We are also forever grateful for John Sakamoto's 2019 donation of the Zoll AED Plus Package & Cabinet and Keith Schultz's equipment installation.



Future Na Anela Dates to mark on your calendar!

May 31 (date change – 5 th Saturday):
Caroline Hamatake, MPH, RDN, LD – Dietary Approaches to Stop

Hypertension (DASH)

July 26: Chef Dan Swift – Healthy Cooking, Windward CC Uala Leaf Cafe

Sep 27: To be Determined (TBD)

Nov 15: Rita Madden, MPH, RDN – Food, Faith and Fasting

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. March – June 2025 classes can be found at: <https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/classes>.

Register directly online. For questions, please contact the Call Center @ (808) 547-6500.

2025 Free Individual Classes:

4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/08, 9/12, 10/10, 11/14: **Fri, 10 – 11:30 am; Hands-on Bathing for Family Caregivers** (in-person at Lumi Ahona I)

2025 Free Weekly Classes:

4/1, 4/15, 5/6, 5/20, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 8/5, 8/19: **Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi** (Zoom)

4/2 – 4/30; 5/5 – 5/30: **M/W/F, 5:15 – 6:15 pm; Zumba with Francis** (Zoom)

4/5 – 4/26; 5/3 – 5/31: **Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Francis** (Zoom)

Note: In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kūpuna Village in Liliha. Contact me at [yamadamya@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com) if you have questions.

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

Participate in a variety of "Wellness" 2025 classes to enhance your health journey.

God Bless you all, Mahalo, Myra

RIVER OF LIFE MISSION

"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven."

God has seasons for us all, and the four years that Paul Gates served as Executive Director at ROLM has been incredibly fruitful. When God began to speak to ROLM in 2016 that they needed to start serving out in the community, they never imagined the miracles that were about to happen. When Paul was hired to replace ROLM's beloved executive director, Bob Marchant, God gave Paul a similar vision of taking the Mission out into the community. When they stopped serving meals at the Chinatown location in 2022, they had just one Hub spot, the back parking lot of the Institute of Human Services (IHS). Today, they have about 50 weekly Hub spot events all across Oahu serving not only meals but providing much needed social services.

Thanks to Paul's gifted and energetic leadership, the results have been miraculous. They are now serving many diverse people in need – from children and families at Palama Settlement, to kupuna in elderly housing, to the homeless at their Hubs, and even UH athletes. They are seeing around 100 people transitioning off the streets each year, hundreds of salvations with life transformations, and so many new volunteers.

The Board co-chaired by Board members Dan Chun and Elwin Ahu have formed an executive search for a new executive director through a search firm to take the organization further in innovative ways to serve our communities.

They are confident that by God's grace, they will find the right individual to lead their organization and build the foundation for the next 40 years.

Join them as River of Life Mission continues to service our community in innovative and impactful ways and find out how you, your friends, and family can be a part of making a meaningful difference in people's lives.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

MOMENTS TO REMEMBER



Sunday fellowship with special guest speaker, Danielle Hickman from the UCC National office.



Darby from our Seminarian Ministry program last summer visited KCC and shared a sermon.



Rev. Dale joins us for worship and supports KCC as guest speaker while Pastor Irene goes on vacation.

Great to see Winchell & Lily back in person and feeling well again!



Church Retreat Events Friday through Sunday



Mahalo to Rev. David Baumgart-Turner for the fun and thought provoking activities.



We saw a Alpha video that was very well done and we hope to have more to shared in the future.

Mahalo Pastor Irene for a great retreat!

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Supporting the idea of missions is important because it is God's plan in this world to establish new churches and bring new believers to Christ through the work of missions. Often we think of foreign works, however, missions is something that can be done in your own home, neighborhood and wider community.

The Earl Church – Our Example

When Christ was ascending into Heaven after His resurrection from the grave, He told the crowd standing around that they tarry in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came to indwell them (Acts 1:8). After they received the filling of the Holy Spirit (whom Jesus had promised would be a comforter to them in John 14), they were to spread out in the area and around the world carrying the Gospel to those who had not heard.

It was a direct command from Jesus for the early church to carry the good news to other places. New churches were established in the region and beyond by these early believers.

People Need To Hear the Gospel

God is not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). His plan is that those who already know the Gospel share it with those around them. God could have chosen any means to propagate the story of redemption; however, He chose current believers to be the ones who shared Christ's love with others.

An individual can only do so much for spreading the Gospel in the world. Yet, through a church mission program we are privileged to pool our resources to help fund the spread of the Gospel throughout the world.

God wants the world to know about Christ. He has chosen us to share the Gospel with others.

What will your part in missions be? You can help the cause of missions by supporting missions by way of prayer, finances, or time and service. Consider what God is calling you to do and respond. Call the church office and learn more about being a part of our mission at KCC. MAHALO!

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

We join Jennie Lee in celebrating the birth of her great grandson, Ezekiel Harvey, grandson of Michelle Medeiros (middle daughter) – Ezekiel was born on Feb. 14, 2025 to Mr. & Mrs. Mikael Harvey.

In addition to this new baby, Jennie is excited that both of her grandsons Dr. Ryan Lee Sakuma and Christopher Sakuma will also be getting married soon. Chris happens to be marrying Jenna Gerber, granddaughter of Lowell and Myrtle Terada who grew up attending KCC. We send our best wishes to the entire family!



Dear KCC Family,

Thank you for being my precious church family! Even though I am homebound for a season, I am still WITH YOU every week thanks to ZOOM.!

I miss you all & look forward to seeing you again.!



Special thanks to our faithful, dedicated Tech / ZOOM team who make it possible for me to

- 1). Corporately sing sacrifices of praise to our Almighty, all loving, all knowing God!
- 2). See the familiar & new faces of the family. (this warms my heart)
- 3) Rejoice in your praises & pray with you

Sunday worship is the highlight of my week!

Also, even though I am unseen, I am very much involved through prayer. Why else would the Lord wake me in the middle of the night to intercede for the brethren? God is soo good to allow me to be involved in this way!

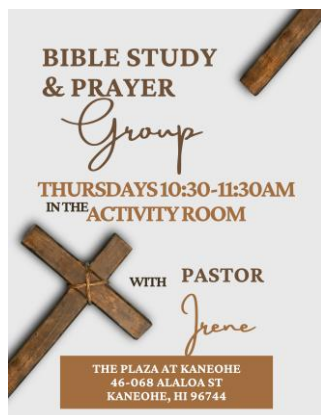
Just want you to know that I am still with you ... "in spirit and in truth"!

With love & gratitude,
Colette Tanaka

*Happy Belated
Birthday Colette!
March 27th*

"...true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit & in truth." — John 4:23 KJV

Kailua Christian Church (UCC)
 317 Manono St.
 Kailua, HI 96734-2211
 PH: (808) 261-0125
 E-Mail: kailuacch@gmail.com
 Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org
 Rev. Irene Willis Hassan, Senior Pastor



Study on Isaiah is currently being held – if you don't normally participate and you plan to attend, please call the church office for any changes that may occur for that week. Mahalo.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship Service - Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
 Communion on the First Sun. each month

King's Company – Jr. Church
 2nd Sun. through last Sun. of each month.
 Children stay in service on Communion Sun.

Official E-Mail for KCC & Office is
kailuacch@gmail.com

If you would like to receive a monthly newsletter via email – please contact the office and give us your current email address. Otherwise you can view it on the website at www.kailuachristian-church.org. Request for a hard copy in the mail can also be arranged by contacting the office.

Council Meeting normally is held on the 3rd Wed. night via Zoom. Please keep participants in your prayers during this time.

Deacons Meeting normally held on the 2nd Sun. after Service.

Church Office hours are
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ph: 808-261-0125

Church secretary is available in the office on Monday, Thursday, and Fridays. Please call the office before visiting. Mahalo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ADA! 99 Candles for Christ!

These words, written on the cake, perfectly capture the celebration of Ms. Ada Lum, BIH Adjunct Faculty Emerita, who remains 99 years young!



Ms. Ada Lum, BIH Adjunct Faculty Emerita, remains 99 years young! She celebrated her birthday on February 11 with a steady stream of friends and loved ones from across the country, from as far as Chicago, who visited over several weeks to honor her remarkable life and legacy. Ms. Lum enjoys a relaxing time with her roommate and sister Ginny. With missionary journeys to 115 countries, her gifted teaching and unwavering faith continue to inspire countless lives around the world. "Happy Birthday Ada! 99 Candles for Christ." Photos by Sharon Ayabe and Vernelle Oku