

# Waves of Faith

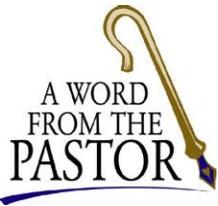
Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)  
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211  
Chartered 1959 –



SEPTEMBER 2025

Volume 40

Issue 09



## Colossians 4:6

*Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

This Pastoral Update is going to feel a little different from what I've shared with you over the past two years.

Our small but faithful congregation has done so much to follow the Spirit of God where He leads, listening carefully and working with integrity to live out His commandments: *love God, love neighbor, make disciples*. I am deeply honored to serve as your Pastor and to witness the ways you have leaned into your calling—from internship programs, to creative expressions of worship like dinner church, to the ambitious keiki ministries such as our Drama Camp this summer.

We have changed lives. Every one of our interns expressed that their time with us was a deeply spiritual experience that drew them closer to God. Families who came to Drama Camp shared the same.

That is something to celebrate. Mission accomplished, faithful servants: *love God, love neighbor, make disciples*.

And yet—here is the harder truth. While 2024 and 2025 were seasons of fruitfulness, 2026 is not shaping up to be a year of “bums in the seats.” We loved our neighbors. We made disciples. But many of those disciples carried the Spirit they found here back into other places. As Jesus never said, “*make disciples who are permanent members of a single church governed by specific rules,*” we know this is still a faithful outcome.

And yet, if we're honest, it leaves us with a sense of sadness.

We long for disciples who will stay, grow with us, and serve alongside us here at 317 Manono Street. That hasn't been the result of much of our labor this year.

Your evaluations (thank you for completing them with such thoughtfulness!) reflected much joy and gratitude for the Spirit's work among us—the “aha” moments, the transformation, the beauty. But some of you—and I include myself here—wondered whether our efforts truly met the goal of building a future for this congregation.

I don't have an answer for that. In fact, I believe we should resist the urge to answer it right away. Instead, let us spend these next few months reflecting prayerfully, seasoning these realities with God's graceful salt before taking them fully to heart. I invite you to hold space for the voice among us that asks:

- Are we simply called to nurture disciples who will take their gifts elsewhere?
- Or is God asking something more of us here and now?

I realize this is not the usual upbeat encouragement you often receive from me. But faithfulness also calls us to honesty. God hears our hearts—including our disappointments—even when we try to mask them with courage. So in these autumn months, I encourage you to let God hear your true heart. Then, when I return in January, let us bring that honest reflection—seasoned with grace—into conversation together.

Thank you, Kailua Christian Church, for all you do in Christ’s name. Rest well. And above all, keep God first—even if that means being still and listening to Him in the midst of both triumph and sadness.

With Christ’s Love,  
Pastor Irene



**DEACONS CORNER**

September is a good time for making improvements. Children return to school to improve their minds, and we, too, need to make sure we’re enrolled in God’s classroom – the Bible.



The American Bible Society’s “state of the Bible: 2018” reported that 61% of Bible-engaged Americans say that they need the Bible more than coffee to jumpstart the mornings. Nothing helps us begin or end our days like meeting with the Lord and listening to His voice in Scripture.

With or without coffee, the Bible is our greatest educational opportunity—one in which we learn how to live while falling in love with the Author of the Book.

Life is what we make it, which means we need to make time for the Lord, for the lessons of His Word, and for prayer. It’s the greatest classroom in the world, and the professor is our Father and our Friend. Let’s give Him first place in our time, starting today!

Florence Miyashiro, Deacon



***Condolences to the family of Rev. Nelson Kwon who passed peacefully on May 18, 2025 at the age of 99. Rev. Kwon served Hawaii in ministry for many years and was highly regarded.***



**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 01 Bianca T.   | 18 Seren P.  |
| 02 Katelyn A.  | 19 Robert M. |
| 04 Saeko Y.    | David Y.     |
| 08 Deidre H.   | 23 Irene K.  |
| 09 Richelle V. | Cary K.      |
| 10 Jean S.     | 28 Sandra A. |

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 06 Reggie & Myra Y.   | 26 Barney & Diane LP |
| 10 Dennis & Debbie F. |                      |

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 01 Nick S.   | 24 Chris N.    |
| 03 Sara M.   | Joan S.        |
| 10 Debbie G. | 27 Lynette P.  |
| 15 Alice E.  | 28 Jennifer P. |
| 16 Pam M.    | 29 Kingston K. |
| 21 Akiko N.  |                |
| 22 Jane M.   |                |



**PRAYERS & PRAISES**

**Please keep in your prayers**

- ~ Stan and Chris H.
- ~ Jerry Coffee complete healing
- ~ Dennis F. continued healing
- ~ John S. and his ohana
- ~ Gary & Susan M. ~ Jennie L.
- ~ Dean W. health ~ David K.
- ~ Lance’s Dad health ~ Patty G. healing
- ~ Julia who has cancer ~ Lia & Curtis L.
- ~ Jerica V-S. health and family
- ~ Rev. Howard Y. & Ohana
- ~ Nathan K. ~ Jean K.
- ~ Claire S. ~ Harrison L.
- ~ Matt, Pie Pie, & Nora W.
- ~ Mai’s mom w/cancer & father w/ dementia
- ~ Saeko Y. ~ Sandra S. & Ohana
- ~ Bill C. ~ Diane & John M.
- ~ Joe w/ brain tumor, cancer & Sue w/ cancer
- ~ Myrtle & Lowell T. ~ Kathe W.
- ~ Heather, Jake, & family for healing
- ~ Dean’s friends, Gary & Greg’s recoveries
- ~ Sharon N. ~ Steve H.
- ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Duane M.
- ~ Winchell & Lily L. ~ Richard T.



~ Family of Sarona DeCosta ~ Ruby O.  
~ Jean M., Alice E., Nani O., Nancy A., Harry I., Carl N., Sharon M., Dot S., Hazel M., and all our high-risk families.



donations from participating non-profit organizations will be accepted at checkout registers at all Foodland, Sack N Save, and Foodland Farms stores statewide. With the Give Aloha Program, Foodland will match donations to different organizations and charities, up to \$249.00 per person. **A (Free) Maika'i card membership is required, and you need to inform the cashier of KCC's Code 78524.** You can spread out your donations up to a total of \$249 through the month of September. The amount you give through the Foodland Give Aloha Program will be reimbursed 100% to Kailua Christian Church (KCC). The match of your donation is divided by all participating organizations. Last year's match to KCC was \$1,827.96. Members and friends donated \$6,092.18. Total donations: \$7,920.15. Once again, we ask for your support and participation in this program. If you are willing to donate, kindly note on your receipt, your name, and if you want the donation to be considered your September pledge. We appreciate your generosity, and we are grateful that God blesses us so abundantly! Mahalo!

Luke 6:38 – "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." NIV

God Bless You All! Trustees

**TRUSTEES NOTES**

Members and Friends of KCC,

KCC Financial Information: (Balances through 7/31/25)

**Income:** \$121,460.13 (Total Budget Income)

**Expenses:** \$109,872.97 (Total Operating Expenses)

**Total Cash:** \$ 231,550.52 (Total Resources in the savings and checking accounts)

**General Fund:** \$ 201,941.21 (Available Resources, excluding special funds and grants)

**Foodland's Give Aloha 2025:**

It's that time again – Foodland's Give Aloha Program!! From September 1-30, Give Aloha



**KCC's Code 78524**

**MAHALO NUI LOA!**



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

**LEARNING IS LIFELONG!**

Join us on September 27, 10-11:30 for “FILLING IN THE GAPS! by Lynne Nohara-Kido, PT, DPT, NCS

Owner Lynne of Kauhale Smooth Transitions, LLC, started her company in February 2024 with a mission to bridge the gap in the medical continuum of care with an emphasis on decreasing the stress and improving the safety of individuals transitioning home.

With her 16 years of inpatient rehabilitation experience as a Physical Therapist at the Rehab of the Pacific’s Neuro Line and Brain Injury lead PT and a Neurologic Clinical Specialist, her experience covered home assessments, visits, equipment ordering, caregiver training, and staff training. Her goal became empowering families to confidently and safely return home and transition smoothly from a facility back to their home. In 2024 Lynne earned her Executive Certificate for Home Modifications from USC.

“Many times, when we or loved ones are in the hospital, we are consumed with survival. The focus is on discharging, but the more urgent questions facing the patient and family are: “Now what?” How do I get in the car to get home? How do I get from the car to the front door? How do I get in the front door? What about the bathroom set up?”

Come join us and find out how to bridge the gaps to successfully and safely transition home! Invite your family and friends to Lynne’s valuable presentation! Thank you Katelyn Akamine, OTD, for inviting Lynne to share her valuable information!

DATE/TIME: Sep 27, 10-11:30 am  
Location: KCC’s Sanctuary, 317 Manono Street  
Zoom will be available using KCC’s link (Mahalo Aaron).  
Sound system and personal earphones will be made available (Mahalo Barney).

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**Last 2025 Na Anela presentation to mark on your calendar!**

**Nov 15: Rita Madden, MPH, RDN – “Food, Faith and Fasting”, 10-11:30; KCC Sanctuary**

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

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

**September 2025** classes can be found at: <https://www.stfrancishawaii.org/classes>. Register directly online. **For questions, please contact the Call Center @ (808) 547-6500 (select 0).**

**2025 Free Individual Classes:**

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:**

9/2, 9/16, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4 and 11/18: **1st and 3rd Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi (Zoom)**

**As of July 1, 2025, Zumba classes are no longer provided.**

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

**Participate in a variety of “wellness” classes to enhance your health journey!**

**God Bless you all, Mahalo, Myra**



COLOSSIANS 3:23 KJV  
*And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;*

**“Filling in the Gaps!”**  
 Dr. Lynne Nohara-Kido, PT, DPT, NCS



Saturday, Sept 27  
 10-11:30am  
 KCC Sanctuary  
 317 Manono St or  
 Zoom Available

RSVP: Myra  
 yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com

When a loved one comes home from the hospital, the hardest questions often aren't medical—they're practical:

- ★ How do we get into the car?
- ★ How do we get through the front door?
- ★ How do we set up the bathroom safely?

With 16 years of experience in neuro rehabilitation and home transitions, Dr. Lynne helps families bridge the gap between hospital and home—reducing stress and increasing safety.



**Na Anela**  
 Health & Wellness  
 Education Program

*Please feel free to invite a friend. We appreciate you contacting the office or calling Myra if you are planning to attend.*



**The Altar Flower Sign up Calendar is now posted on the back bulletin board . Please consider signing up to provide flowers for the worship service. Mahalo! Details on sign up sheet. If you would like to dedicate this floral donation in**

**Memory or in honor of someone, please inform the office with the details. We can post this on our announcements. Mahalo**

*Mahalo to long time friends Bianca T. & Judy Y. for the beautiful Calalily altar flowers given in August.*



**BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER Group**  
 THURSDAYS 10:30-11:30AM  
 IN THE ACTIVITY ROOM  
 WITH PASTOR Irene  
 THE PLAZA AT KANEHOE  
 46-068 ALALOA ST  
 KANEHOE, HI 96744

Our Study offered at the Plaza is on Genesis. It is scheduled to continue until October 9<sup>th</sup>. Group will then take a break until the new year.



**BIBLE INSTITUTE OF HAWAII Fall Quarter 2025 Schedule of Courses**  
 September 22-December 4, 2025  
 (6-8 Weeks) & **One Day Seminars** are also being offered.

*Please check out the complete schedule of classes that are being offered. Some on Zoom and others in person. Go to [biblehawaii.org](http://biblehawaii.org)*

**Consider this seminar: Applying Biblical Principles to Your Estate Planning Mr. Tom Rulon Registration \$15**  
 This session continues exploring how biblical wisdom applies to estate planning. Mr. Rulon will briefly review key principles from Scripture, then continue our discussion of “Building the Ship” with emphasis on using the Revocable Living Trust and Donor Advised Fund. There will be time for questions, shared experiences, and practical lessons. For the full benefit, we recommend watching Part 1 through BIH. Contact the BIH office for details. Join us on Sat. Oct. 11, 2025 9 a.m. to 11.a.m. Zoom

*You're also invited to **JUST SHOW UP***

*A Public reading of Scripture  
 Sept. 23 – Nov. 11, 2025*

*Tuesdays, 7:00 -8:30 p.m. Zoom Online Free  
[www.biblehawaii.org](http://www.biblehawaii.org)*

## ALOHA 'OE

*We shared a farewell blessing with our Interns on Sunday, August 17, 2025 during worship. Special thanks to our Interns and for all the support of those who have taken the time to share this year's Service Learning Experience.*

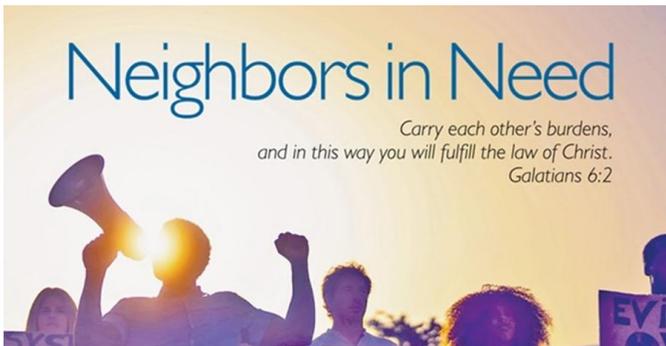


**Skydiver/  
Intern  
Survivors  
2025**

**MAHALO ALL!**

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 Website: [www.kailuachristianchurch.org](http://www.kailuachristianchurch.org)  
 Rev. Irene Willis Hassan, Senior Pastor

### *UCC Neighbors in Need Special Offering*



Neighbors in Need is one of the Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ. We hope you will join us in supporting this offering that we will receive the first Sunday in October.

The Neighbors in Need offering enables ministries of justice and compassion, with two-thirds of the offering benefiting the justice and witness ministries of the UCC, including grants awarded to congregations and partners, and one-third of the offering supporting the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM).

### **MAHALO FOR YOUR KIND CONSIDERATION**

The graphic has a background image of a Bible and two white coffee cups on a table. The text "SMALL GROUP Sunday" is written in a stylized font. To the right of the image is a "Schedule" section with the following details:

**Schedule**  
**September 14**  
 • Jumana and Nora's baby Shower  
**September 21**  
 • Young Adult  
**September 28**  
 • Vision Retreat  
**October 5**  
 • Mens

**Fellowship in Room 3-4**  
**After Worship from 11:30-12:30**

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

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

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

**Official E-Mail for KCC & Office is**  
[kailuacch@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. night via Zoom. Please keep participants in your prayers during this time.

**Deacons Meeting** normally held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. after Service.

### **SPECIAL NOTE;**

**Church secretary is available on**  
**Monday, Thursday, and Fridays**  
**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Ph: 808-261-0125**

**Please call the office before visiting so you will be able to get on property and/or meet with the pastor as needed. MAHALO.**