

Waves of Faith

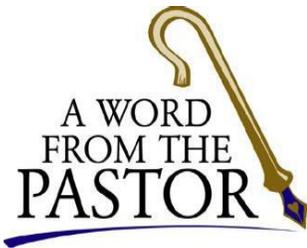
Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Chartered 1959 –



JANUARY 2026

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Issue 01



The Swing of Things

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Aloha e Kailua Christian Church 'Ohana,

Mele Kalikimaka and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! As many of you know, I have been away for the past three months. Mahalo for the love, prayers, and support you shared while my family and I welcomed our new daughter, Jumana, and took the precious time to truly know her and introduce her to the world.

As we begin this new year, we step back into what we often call "the swing of things." Yet, as the past several years have shown us, the "swing of things" no longer carries the same predictability it once did. The phrase itself suggests stability, comfort, and harmony. One of the most important reasons we gather as a church is to seek those very qualities in our hearts and our lives. For many of us, this community is a place of balance and peace in a world that can feel harsh, uncertain, and overwhelming.

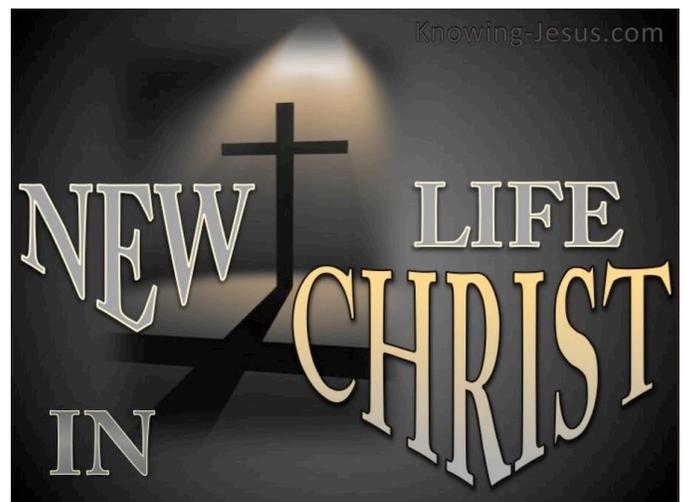
At the same time, church is not without challenge. The peace we seek often comes through the refining of our souls and through faithfully walking the path God sets before us, even when that path no longer looks familiar. This holy tension can bring anxiety, and it is something we all experience.

The Good News woven throughout Scripture reminds us that the challenges Jesus places before us as we enter a new year do not need to lead us into fear. Paul writes that becoming a new creation in Christ is not meant to be painful, but joyful. Following His way, especially when we cannot see what lies ahead, always leads us somewhere more beautiful than we could have imagined.

This New Year, Kailua Christian Church remains your steady ground. It is a place where we meet God in peace and harmony, and where our lives are anchored and renewed. It is also a place where we are joyfully shaped into something greater according to His will. This year, let us look forward to both the comfort of being together and the joy found in the challenges God sets before us. Know that He will be with you every step of the way.

In His Service,

Pastor Irene



DEACONS CORNER

From Sarah Young’s Jesus Calling
– Enjoying Peace in His Presence



January 1, 2026

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Come to Me with a teachable spirit, eager to be changed.

A close walk with Me is a life of continual newness. Do not cling to old ways as you step into a new year.

Instead, seek My Face with an open mind, knowing that Your journey with Me involves being *transformed by the renewing of your mind.*

As you focus your thoughts on Me, be aware that I am fully attentive to you.

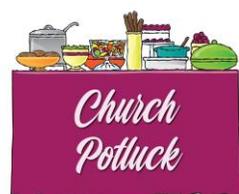
I see you with a steady eye because My attention span is infinite. I know and understand you completely; My thoughts embrace you in everlasting Love.

I also know the plans I have for you: plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Give yourself fully to this adventure of increasing attentiveness to My Presence.

May you journey closely with the Lord in 2026. Be adventurous!

We welcome our three new deacons Mandy, Jon, and Diane to the team.

**Love & Blessings,
Deacon Myra**



Please note that potluck refreshments after worship will be available the first Sunday, (Communion Sunday) only. January will be focused on Japanese dishes. Mahalo.

JANUARY Birthdays



Jean K.
Hazel M.
Nathan N.
Jo Ann K.

Mary W.

& Anniversaries



Joan & Terry G.
Robert & Romona M.



PRAYERS & PRAISES

Please keep in your prayers



- ~ Florence’s brother-in-law, Takeshi recovering from stroke.
- ~ Reggie’s healing
- ~ Jennie’s medical condition
- ~ Dean’s co-worker’s muscle healing
- ~ Dean’s health ~ Dennis F.
- ~ Julia who has cancer ~ Lia & Curtis L.
- ~ Stan and Chris H. for healing
- ~ Kevin L’s healing of cancer.
- ~ Joe F palliative cancer care
- ~ Val A & sister, Claire S’s healing
- ~ John S. and daughters on loss of his son, Clifford. ~ Pastor Joshua G.
- ~ Gary & Susan M. ~ Mia W.
- ~ Mele’s Grandfather, Jack recovering from stroke and her friend, Abby dealing with challenges.
- ~ Rev. Howard Y. and family members dealing with house fire and loss of lives
- ~ Sandra S. ~ Matt, Pie Pie, & Nora W.
- ~ Nora’s birth family for safe travels home
- ~ Nathan K. ~ Jean K.
- ~ Myrtle & Lowell T. ~ Saeko Y.
- ~ Steff M’s healing
- ~ Mai’s mom w/cancer & father w/ dementia
- ~ Bill C’s hip surgery healing
- ~ Joe w/ brain tumor, cancer & Sue w/ cancer
- ~ Heather, Jake, & family for healing
- ~ Dean’s friends, Gary & Greg’s recoveries
- ~ Sharon N. ~ Steve H.

~Visitor Kate N. prayed for her son, Rob who survived a fire but lost many of his things.
 ~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Duane M.
 ~ Winchell & Lily L. ~ Richard T.
 ~ Jean M., Alice E., Nani O., Annie S., Nancy A., Carl N., Sharon M., Dot S., Harrison L., and Hazel M.



DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

Please keep the families of Harry and Carl in your prayers as they mourn the loss of our beloved brothers in Christ. Harry I. passed away in his sleep on Dec. 20th at his care home. Harry was a faithful member of KCC who joined us on Zoom weekly with his son, Randall and daughter-in-law, Cindy. Harry loved to sing the *You Are the Vine* closing song.

Carl T. passed away at home on Tuesday, Dec. 30th after experiencing some recent health issues.

Condolences to Susan M’s brother, Herbert who lost his wife Barb to cancer in November.

Condolences to the family of Tim I (Pastor Roy’s son) who passed away in Dec. Please keep Dorothy, his mom, Melanie. his wife. and his two daughters Camille and Malialani in your prayers.

Services will be held in Southern CA on June 10th. Ashes will be scattered on the Big Island at a later date.



TRUSTEES NEWS

Members and Friends of KCC,

KCC Financial Information:

(Balances through 11/30/25)

Income: \$ 188,837.65 (Total Gross Income)

Expenses: \$ 193,635.12 (Total Expenses)

Total Cash: \$ 215,859.71 (Total Assets and Fund Balances)

General Fund: \$ 177,990.96 (Avail. Resources, excluding special funds and grants)

Month of November:

- \$24,964.92 were received, primarily from pledges, offerings, Foodland Give Aloha, UCC CASA grant.
- \$16,342.84 were expended, primarily for salaries, utilities, Honorariums.
- Difference: \$8,622.08

Based on the above, the Total Expenses exceeded the Total Gross Income, resulting in a deficit of \$4,797.47. This shortfall was covered mostly by the General Fund (Available Resources). Our Resources will eventually be depleted unless we generate sufficient income via pledges and offerings to at least cover our major operating expenses.

Aloha and Mahalo:

The Trustees are happy to announce that the nomination of Reyn A. to be a Trustee has been approved by the Congregation at the annual meeting on December 7th. His term of office will be 2026-2027. Please join the Board of Trustees (BOT) in welcoming Reyn to the exciting world of church finance and facility management. He is currently an Executive Associate at Central Pacific Bank and brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise in financial management to the BOT.

A big mahalo to Maureen Wakuzawa for her dedicated service as a KCC Trustee. She will be taking a well-deserved rest from being a Trustee and we all commend her for a job well done.

Maureen, who works as the Financial Officer at HGEA and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), has been an advocate in ensuring that the

church finances were transparent and that all financial actions were done in accordance with the local, State and federal regulations and KCC By Laws and policies. Thank you for your service, Maureen!

2026 Budget:

The 2026 Budget was approved at the annual Congregational meeting in December. The budget was developed on a faith-based basis, with a deficit of (\$147,630.20) in the hope that God will provide through your generosity and other income sources to alleviate the shortfall. We have diligently attempted to reduce the operating expenses; however, we are at a point whereby reducing the expenses any further, will jeopardize the church operations and services it provides. We are blessed to have a community of members and friends that is willing to step up and support God’s work.

Pledges:

To date, we have received \$79,476 in pledges. We have almost reached the budgeted amount of \$80,000. Thank you, Pledgers! As mentioned above, our 2026 faith-based budget has a deficit which will need to be reduced, or our assets will eventually be depleted. Please join us in prayer that God will provide necessary resources to keep KCC operational.

Happy New Year:

Happy New Year to everyone! May 2026 be filled with joy, good health, prosperity, new adventures and wonderful memories as you all embrace fresh starts and endless possibilities.

Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give hope and a future.” NIV

God Bless You All!
Board of Trustees



NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA

(Angels in the Works for God)

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

Come, join us in celebrating KCC’s Na Anela’s 24th anniversary and many cancer survivors!

Ten Healthy Habits for Your Brain and the Latest Updates!

Positive, everyday actions can make a difference in brain health, even lowering the risk of cognitive decline and possibly Alzheimer’s and dementia. Incorporate some or all of these habits into your life to help maintain a healthy brain. Take charge of your brain health today — it’s never too early or too late to start.

Presenters:

Calvin Hara and Valerie Hasegawa-Takahashi

Date: Saturday, Jan 24, 2026

Time: 10-11:30 am

Location: KCC’s Sanctuary and Zoom

Invite your friends/relatives to listen & learn from **Alzheimer’s Association volunteer educators** (with decades of experience in senior care management, human resources and training, and home care services).

Light healthy refreshments and fellowship to follow.

St. Francis no longer offers free wellness classes.

AARP provides events that are free and does not require you to become a member.

Go to: <https://local.aarp.org/kailua-hi/aarp-events/>

Mind & Body with Coach Carl

Join Coach Carl Powell for an interactive session on brain health. Explore AARP resources, gentle movement, and cognitive challenges to keep your mind sharp.

Tuesday, Jan 13, 2026 at 10 am HST; online event

Learn How to Spot and Avoid Fraud

Join AARP Hawai'i and Generations Magazine for a free event on fraud prevention. Learn common scams, tactics scammers use and steps to protect yourself and loved ones.

Tuesday, Jan 20, 2026 at 9:30 am HST

In-person: Westside Community Center Ewa Beach, HI

Participation in a variety of "wellness" classes will enhance your health journey! Be Well and have fun learning!

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

MISSIONS NEWS

As we continue our faithful service to the Lord as Kailua Christian Church, we encourage your support of participating in our stewardship drive of

Time and Talent commitments and making a pledge of financial support to the ongoing ministries this year.

Forms are available in the back of the sanctuary for your convenience. MAHALO NUI LOA!



Logos Bookstore of Hawaii has faithfully served Hawaii since 1983. Their mission has been to provide our community with the best in Bibles, books, gifts, and other resources to spread the WORD (Logos) of God! All Bibles are now 15% off regular

price ALL the time! Every month they have hundreds of books and Bibles that are \$5.97 to 40% off regular price. Visit their Facebook page to see the list of books and Bibles that are on sale!

Great news! LOGOS signed a lease and will be moving to a new location!! Their home will be at Makiki Christian Church, 829 Pensacola St, Honolulu, HI. 96814. Logos will still be independently owned and operated, but we are blessed to be welcomed by Makiki Christian Church

(MCC) onto their campus. MCC is centrally located in the heart of Honolulu, bordered by Pensacola Street and Piikoi Street (major streets leading to and from Ala Moana Shopping Center; across the street from McKinley High School). They will be occupying a space on the ground floor of their Christian Education Building, adjacent to their parking lot on Rycroft Street. The store will be half the size of their current Ward Centre space, but it will be big enough to allow them to carry 80% of their current merchandise. They will still have an excellent selection of Bibles, books, gifts, and church supplies.

Renovations will take place in January and February. They hope to move in March. Please continue to pray for them as there is much to plan, renovate, and move. December was the slowest Christmas they have ever had, and they need your patronage to survive and thrive in their new location.

Logos has been a great local support to our faith community and we believe God still wants them to serve us with God's Word, both written in Bibles and books, and inspired in gifts! Let us support them in this time. To God be the glory!!



Thursday Morning Bible Study at the Plaza

We are excited to have Pastor Irene offering a study on Exodus starting on Thus. Jan. 8th at the Plaza in Kaneohe. All are welcome to join her in the Family Room at the Plaza. Check in at the reception desk. Class will begin at 10:30 a.m. Please call the church office if you may need to arrange a ride.





SINCERE MAHALO once again to our wonderful supporting friends, Rev. Dale Vallejo-Sander-son, Rev. Chris Eng, Pastor Danny Han, Greig Porter and Chaplain Jackson Feiock who assisted us in worship during the months of November and December. Special thanks goes out to Tino from the Hope Center Ministry and Florence from KCC for sharing their personal testimonies.



Celebrating Our Officers and Leaders for 2026

On Sunday, January 4, 2026 we install our officers and leadership for 2026. Please join us in supporting these faithful people who will serve the Lord and grow our church toward a fruitful ministry, all for God’s glory. Please continue to pray for these precious people throughout the year.

Deacons: Myra Y., Debbie F., Florence M., new deacons, **Mandy B., Jonathan F., and Diane L P.**

Trustees: Susan M., returns for second year new trustees, **Dean W., Reyn A.**

Treasurer: Reggie Y., returns for second year

Clerk: Katelyn A., returns for second year.

Worship: Matthew W., returns for second year.

Christian Education: **Noah R. and Mele S.** begins their two year term as co-chairpersons.

Missions: Kammy G, returns for second year.

Sincere Mahalo to Maureen W. for her faithful service as a Trustee for numerous years. We release her to discover her other gifts to serving our Lord in the new year.



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

Sincere thanks to all who may consider supporting the altar flowers ministry in 2026.



Sunday’s After Service Events

January 4

Oshogatsu Potluck

January 11

Christmas Clean Up
Deacons monthly mtg.

January 18

Council Meeting with Committee members

January 25

Vision Retreat with Pastor Noelani Jai

Looking ahead:

February 1

Lunar New Year Potluck
(sign ups available through Jan. on the refreshment table)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SEASON



Advent Reading by Susan M. and grand-daughter Ava W.



Hope Center Ministry – Testimony from Tino (below)



2025 Christmas Eve Service – 5:00 p.m.



Nora’s brothers sing/sign Jesus Love Me



Merry Christmas to all from Nora and her family



Christmas Lunch in Manoa

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

Thank you for your generous Thanksgiving donations, which supported our ministry partners in wider missions. *Our friends have sent us thank you greetings and appreciate the encouragement. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.*



SPECIAL THANKS to all who have sent special Christmas donations to KCC and also a big mahalo for those who although may not attend service here, but have encouraged and blessed us with your generosity. To God be the glory!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Worship Service - Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
 Communion on the First Sun. of each month.
 Potluck following worship on the first Sunday.

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

please update any previous emails you may have.

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.kailuachristianchurch.org. Request for a hard copy in the mail can also be arranged by contacting the office.

(continued from first column)

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

Special note: "Hi KCC family, Thank you for attending our congregational meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2025. Please send me an email at waku.kate@gmail.com if you would like a PDF copy. Happy new year! Katelyn KCC Council Clerk."

Deacons Meetings are normally held on the 2nd Sunday of each month after the Service.

IMPORTANT NOTE;

**Church secretary is available on
 Monday, Thursday, and Fridays**

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesdays

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ph: 808-261-0125

Please call the church office before visiting so you will be sure to connect with someone who could assist you as needed.

In case of an emergency, please feel free to contact your Deacons or call the church number.

MAHALO.

