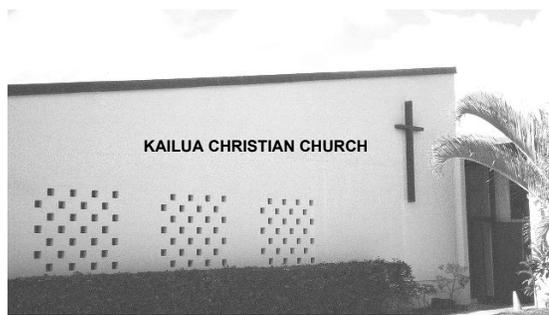


# Waves of Faith

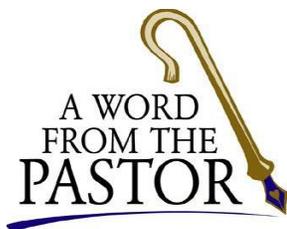
Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)  
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211  
Chartered 1959 –



FEBRUARY 2026

Volume 41

Issue 02



Aloha e Kailua Christian Church 'Ohana,

Ash Wednesday is approaching (happened fast, yeah?) and as we enter the

season of Lent, I present to you the topic I always preach about on the first Sunday of Lent: fasting.

Fasting appears throughout Scripture. In the Hebrew Bible, Moses fasts before receiving the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28). Elijah fasts while journeying toward God's presence at Horeb (1 Kings 19:8). Esther calls for a fast before a moment of great risk and courage (Esther 4:16). The Psalms speak of fasting as an expression of humility and longing (Psalm 35:13). In the New Testament, Jesus fasts in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry (Matthew 4:1–11), and he assumes that his followers will fast—not *if* they fast, but *when* they fast (Matthew 6:16–18).

I think there's a lot of great reasons to fast, physically and spiritually. I keep bringing it up not only because it's so central to our scriptural faith, but also because fasting gives us something precious: a sense of agency in our own spiritual refinement. So much of life happens to us. Lent invites us to intentionally choose to turn toward God, to make space, to notice what we lean on, and to remember that God is already with us through everything. Fasting is not about proving our devotion; it's about practicing attentiveness.

And fasting does not have to mean abstaining from food. For some, that may be meaningful. For others, it may be unhealthy or inaccessible. What matters most is the posture of the heart. Fasting can look like stepping back from what distracts us, numbs us, or fills every quiet moment: social media, constant noise, overwork, busyness, compulsive habits. It can be as simple as choosing to notice when something pulls us away from God and gently returning our attention.

Fasting helps us ask: *What is shaping me? What do I want to be more attentive to?* My hope is that each of you will take fasting seriously this Lent—not as a burden, but as a gift. It is a chance to let the noise of the world fade away as you listen more closely to what God is whispering to you.

Of course, I'll be preaching about fasting on February 22, so I encourage you all to come to church or read the sermon online if you want to learn more about how to fast. In whatever way you fast during this season, I pray that it be one of intention, courage, and quiet transformation for each of you individually as well as us together.

In His Service,

Pastor Irene



LENT

**DEACONS CORNER**

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. - Colossians 3:17

Happy New Year! Yes, it is February and January is in the rearview mirror but 2026 is still young and full of new people, new things, and new events. Here are some new and exciting happenings that we look forward to in 2026. First of all, the Deacons welcomed three new board members in January. They are Diane LP, Mandy B, and Jonathan F. We thank them for their commitment and their willingness to serve KCC in this capacity. They came on board, hit the ground running, and have already contributed suggestions and ideas that we plan to put into action soon.

Starting in February Diane will host a weekly informal talk story session for those on zoom. We encourage our zoomers to log in on Sundays at 9:30am, turn on their cameras and unmute to meet together and chit chat.

There will also be a deacon greeter at the front door working with Pat to help welcome people and pass out copies of the sermon.

The Deacons plan to host fellowship events to invite newcomers, encourage and build friendships and develop a sense of belonging. Also to build networks and a reliance on church members and resources if needed. All to bring us closer to God. We brainstormed for potential events - cooking classes, tech workshops, music events, karaoke, bingo, and are open to suggestions and other ideas. Please contact any deacon to give your input as to what you are interested in.

Hopefully there will be baptisms and welcoming of new members this year.

In addition, the newly established monthly pot-lucks, plans for a new children's playground, new interns and summer plans – although not

strictly Deacon activities, are all new and exciting things that Kailua Christian Church can look forward to in 2026.

In all the excitement let us remember – that whatever we pray for, whatever we hope for, whatever we plan for, whatever comes to fruition is made possible only through the power and grace of God.

In His Love,  
Debbie F

*So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. - 1 Corinthians 10:31*



Deepest Sympathies to the family of KCC's charter member, Carl N. Carl was 99 years old when he passed away at Pohai Nani on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Carl was a beloved, faithful servant of God who served in many roles from Youth ministry, as church historian, through most of the positions on the Council, including being the Moderator. KCC sends their warmest aloha and heartfelt thanks for the many ways he and his wife, Sats blessed KCC through their many years of membership. Carl & Sats are survived by son, Nathan and two daughters, Ada-Lynn B, and Elizabeth R, seven grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.



***Aloha Nui  
Loa  
until we  
meet again.***

*A private service for the immediate family will be held in the summer when the family from the mainland can be here.*

**TRUSTEE NEWS**

Members and Friends of KCC,

**KCC Financial Information:**

(Balances through 12/31/25)

Income: \$ 214,367.56 (Total Gross Income)

Expenses: \$ 205,817.61 (Total Expenses)

Total Cash: \$ 229,556.31 (Total Assets and Fund Balances)

General Fund: \$192,078.38 (Avail. Resources, excluding special funds and grants)

Month of December:

- \$25,529.91 were received, primarily from pledges, offerings, facility use agreements.
- \$18,432.49 were expended, primarily for salaries, utilities, insurance.
- Difference: \$7,097.42

At the start of 2025 fiscal year (January 2025), KCC had \$221,438.18 in the savings and checking accounts (total resources) which included funds, special offerings and grants. The available resources (General Fund only) to cover the operating expenses was \$190,354.05. As of December 31, 2025, the final Year to Date (YTD) balance in the savings and checking accounts was \$229,556.31 and the available resources (General Fund only) to cover the operating expenses was \$192,078.38.

Based on the 2025 Faith-Based Budget (excluding special offerings/funds and grants), there was to be an annual deficit of (\$85,354.00). At the end of the 2025 fiscal year (Dec. 2025), there was a surplus of \$1,724.33 (excluding special offerings/funds and grants). This \$87,078.33 swing was attributed to the generous pledges and non-pledged offerings received throughout the year that exceeded the budgeted amounts, and a large donation that KCC received from Wesley K.

**2026 Budget:**

With our 2026 faith-based budget in place, we are faced with an annual deficit of (\$147,630.20). As we continue to keep KCC operational and do God's work, we are hopeful that God will provide through your generosity and other income sources to alleviate the shortfall. We are truly blessed to have a community of members and friends that is willing to step up and support God's work.

**Pledges:**

Good news! To date, we have received \$84,276.00 in pledges from 24 members and one friend of KCC, which is 30% of our membership. Because of your commitment, we have exceeded the budgeted amount of \$80,000. To those who are interested in joining the Pledgers, please complete the pledge card and turn it into the office. Mahalo.

**Happy Valentines Day:**

Happy Valentine's Day! May your day (and everyday throughout the year) be blessed with the love of Christ, reflecting on 1 John 4:7-11, which reminds us that love comes from God and we should love one another. Celebrate by sharing His kindness and grace with those around you, grounded in faith and His eternal promise.

*1 John 4:7-11 – "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." NIV*

God Bless You All! Board of Trustees

## UCC Christmas Fund - (A Love Offering)

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

UCC Congregations and members have blessed this Fund with their generosity for many years. This year your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need.

We at KCC have chosen to receive this Offering in February and have identified it as a Love Offering. Because we already have our own Christmas Offering, we still want to honor all of those who this Fund was meant to remember.

Please join us in remembering those who have devoted their lives to being there for others, to caring for those who have served the church but may now be in a time of need in their own lives.

We will receive this offering on Sunday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and will be happy to receive it throughout the end of February.

Sincere Mahalo for your kind consideration.



### NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA

(Angels in the Works for God)

### LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

Twenty members and friends took time out of their busy Saturday in joining us in-person/Zoom to learn about the **Ten Healthy Habits for Your Brain – Latest Update**. Both excellent community educators, Valerie T. and Calvin H., provided us with their background, experience in caring for their parents, and practical

examples of the ten healthy habits. Many of our members/friends already practiced some of the healthy habits. However, after the presentation, I believe we will take charge of our brain health and shoot for making all ten habits our own! Mahalo to Aaron/Barney/Reggie for AV/Sound Support, Jennie for her lovely leis, Kammy for her prayer and picture-taking and all who contributed to the Mahalo basket and ‘ono’ refreshments!

1. **Protect your head.**
2. **Be smoke-free.**
3. **Get moving.**
4. **Challenge your mind.**
5. **Control your blood pressure.**
6. **Manage diabetes.**
7. **Sleep Well.**
8. **Stay in school.**
9. **Eat right.**
10. **Maintain a healthy weight.**

Background info: “Data results from a two-year clinical trial/study to evaluate whether lifestyle interventions that simultaneously target many risk factors protect cognitive function in older adults who are at risk for cognitive decline showed that “positive actions can make a difference in brain health.” More importantly, when combined into a structured group participation program, there was a more powerful impact.”

**Latest Update: FDA** recently approved two new drugs, **Leqembi** (infusion & sub-cutaneous injection) and **Kisunla** (infusion) which are effective in reducing amyloid brain plaques for mild cognitive decline only. Need to work closely with your doctor as both have high risks.





Participation in a variety of “wellness” classes will enhance your health journey! Learning new things helps to keep the brain healthy! God Bless you all!

Mahalo, Myra

**MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS IN 2025.**

*Your giving statements has been distributed by the Trustees. If you have not received your statement by now, or if the statement you received require adjustments, please notify the office at your earliest convenience so we can attend to it immediately.*



**Note of Thanks from IHS**

On behalf of the entire IHS ohana, thank you for your extraordinary generosity in 2025.

Because of your support, IHS continues to be a place where lives are rebuilt, stability is restored, and futures are reimaged.

Over the past year, your gifts helped make it possible for IHS to provide

- **284,278 meals** to nourish body and spirit
- **Emergency & Specialized Shelter**
- (Serving more than 1,400 individuals on average across our Sumner Men’s, Kaaahi Women’s and Family, and Hale Lauiliola shelters.)
- **Children’s Programs** (Educational and recreational support for nearly 455 keiki)
- **Employment Programs** (Resources and job pathways that helped over 790 individuals move toward stability and independence.)
- **Imi Ola Piha** (Homeless Triage and Treatment Center) Intergrated medical, psychiatric, and substance abuse treatment delivered by physicians and counselors.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 St. Francis is offering free **Body & Brain Yoga & Tai Chi Zoom classes, 9-10 am until June 30, 2026.**

Tue dates: Feb 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar 3, 10, 17, 24; Apr 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; Jun 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

**ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION - HAWAII**  
**The Empowered Caregiver Series with Calvin H.**  
**9-10:30 am; 677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 301 Hon., HI 96813; Register online at [tinyurl.com/TECFeb](http://tinyurl.com/TECFeb)**

**Saturday, Feb 7, Supporting Independence**  
 Learn practical ways to support daily routines, helping your loved one stay engaged, safe and as independent as possible.

**Saturday, Feb 14, Communicating Effectively and Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors**  
 Learn what’s really behind changes in communication and behavior, and gain simple, proven strategies to respond with confidence, calm and care.

**Saturday, Feb 21, Exploring Care and Support Services**  
 Get ready for what’s next! Learn your options for respite, residential care and end-of-life planning so you can make informed decisions with confidence.



Long time friend of KCC, Ms. Ada Lum will be celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 10:30 a.m. at Kalihi Union Church  
RSVP Deadline is Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Lunch is included.

Seating is limited so RSVP  
@ [www.biblehawaii.org](http://www.biblehawaii.org)  
Please no gifts or leis.

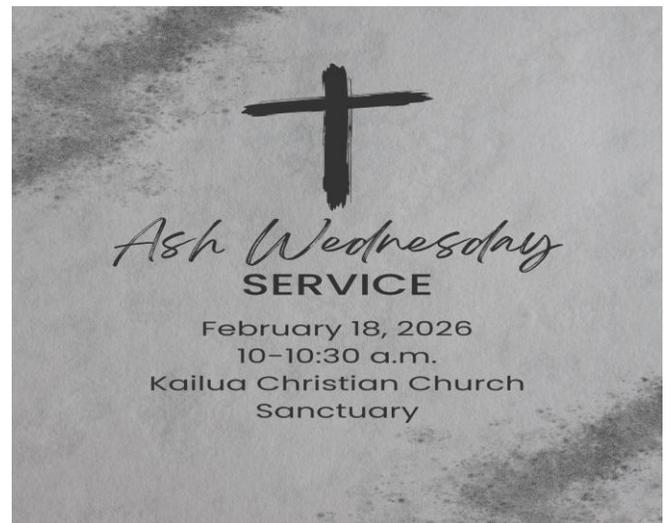


The Altar Flower Sign up Calendar is now posted on the back clipboard. Please consider signing up to provide flowers for the worship service. Mahalo! Details on sign up sheet.

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 are supporting the altar flowers ministry in 2026.*

**HIM 2026 – One Day Experience**  
March 12, 2026 – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Ko’olau Ballroom and Conference Center  
at First Presbyterian Church, Kaneohe.  
Inspirational and transformational  
conversations about Christ centered  
relationships and the vision launch of HIM’s  
next season. Great speakers!  
Registration until March 4<sup>th</sup>. \$99 Gen Adm.  
Students (High School and College) \$49.  
Fore more information go to  
[info@himonline.org](mailto:info@himonline.org)



**LENT** will start on Wed. Feb. 18th and end on Thurs. April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This period lasts for 40 days, not including Sundays, representing the time Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness.

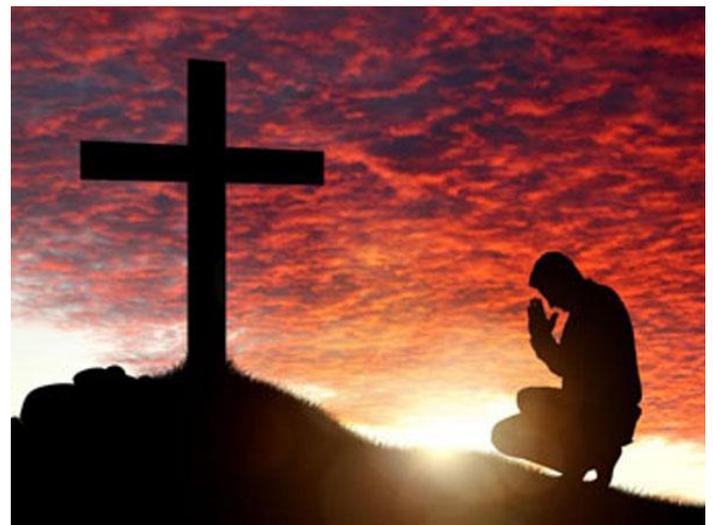
*Free Lenten devotionals are available in the back of the sanctuary, please help yourself.*

For Your Information:

Palm Sunday - March 29

Maunday Thursday – April 2 (Last Supper)

Easter Sunday – April 5<sup>th</sup> New Members are received and Brunch





Please note that potluck refreshments after worship will be available the first Sunday, (Communion Sundays) only. March Madness sign up for dishes. Mahalo.



February Birthdays

Kyle N.
Reggie Y.
Jonathan F.
Andrew W.
Dot S.
Barney P.
Debbie F.



John T.
Keith S.
Florence M.
Marisa Y.

Reminder from your deacons for Sunday worship on Zoom:



Starting February 1, at 9:30 a.m., Diane LP. will be the deacon on Zoom. For approximately 20 minutes, we can have an informal talk story session. Go ahead and log on as usual, at 9:30 a.m. you will be instructed to turn your Video camera on and unmute yourselves. Let's connect with each other!

IMPORTANT EVENTS THIS MONTH

Join us after worship in room 3/4 for these two very important gatherings that will help form our ministries here at KCC.

King's Company Volunteer Meeting - Feb. 15th

See Pie Pie and the Christian Ed Ministry team leaders, Noah and Mele for more details.

Vision Retreat - Feb. 22nd Join Pastor Noelani Jai as she helps us develop skills and suggests plans to how we might build the future of KCC together.

Volunteer to help with the Children's retreat during Spring Break.. See Pastor Irene for details.

PRAYERS & PRAISES

Please keep in your prayers



- ~ Gary & Susan M.
~ Lowell & Myrtle T.
~ Winchell & Lily's health concerns
~ Stan & Chris H.'s healing
~ Nathan K. ~ Lia & Curtis L.
~ Florence's son's knee surgery and brother-in-law Takeshi's continued healing from a stroke.
~ Dennis F. continued healing
~ Reggie Y.'s continued healing
~ Jennie's progress with health issues
~ Dean's health ~ Richard T.
~ Prayers for the family of Walter N. who passed away in mid-January.
~ Julia who has cancer ~ Sandra Siu
~ Kevin L.'s healing. ~ Pastor Joshua G.
~ Suzanne's husband, Marcus's health concerns
~ Corvey L.'s educational success
~ Val A. & sister, Claire S.'s healing
~ John S.'s Ohana ~ Mia W.
~ Mele's Grandpa, Jack and her friend, Abby
~ Rev. Howard Y. and family
~ Matt, Pie Pie's, & Nora W.'s healings and comfort on the loss of family dog, Cookie
~ Diane's friends, Ingrid & Bud, and Donna.
~ Jean K. ~ Saeko Y.
~ Mai's mom w/cancer & father w/ dementia
~ Joe w/ brain tumor, cancer & Sue w/ cancer
~ Heather, Jake, & family for healing
~ Dean's friends, Gary & Greg's recoveries
~ Sharon N. ~ Steve H.
~ Hope Center Ministry and their clients
~ Lisa battling cancer ~ Duane M.
Jean M., Alice E., Nani O., Annie S., Nancy A., Dot S., Harrison L., Sharon M., and Hazel M.

BIBLE STUDY AT THE PLAZA
Thurs. mornings 10:30 a.m.
Join Pastor Irene for a great time of fellowship and learning from the Book of Exodus.

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

### Prayer for the People

*O God, remind us that hospitality is the gold standard that runs throughout the Bible—in the Old Testament, in Jesus’s parables—hospitality toward the weary traveler. Jesus, your own disciples were often the strangers knocking at the door and welcoming them was to welcome God in. But more and more we are barring our doors and our country against the stranger in need—denying them food, shelter, community. Help us here build a network that lets Your love flow into our communities by opening the prisons we have made for ourselves, thinking that we have made those prisons for others in order to protect ourselves from them when we are only shutting ourselves away from You, O God. Through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.  
 Amen.*

“From our friend and program investor Rev. Elizabeth Findley Hazel, who chairs the Immigration Working Group in Wisconsin. Written for those in need of comfort during a time of confusion over events happening in Minnesota.”



### **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**  
 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)  
 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.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.

### **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 a.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.**