



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

October Newsletter 2015

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

This is an exciting time in the life of the church as we reflect upon our hopes and dreams for the upcoming year! I have thoroughly enjoyed conversations at our Wednesday evening book group for several weeks where people talked a lot about what they imagined for the future of the church. I also thought our Leadership Retreat in August was a meaningful time to start planning some of the details for the coming year. Furthermore, the testimonials in church these past few weeks have been really inspiring, as members have shared more specifically about their dreams for the upcoming months. Finally, I have had several conversations with individuals and small groups regarding their hopes and dreams. When I reflect upon all of these times, a few things especially stand out to me:

1. We are beginning to imagine what a thriving youth ministry might look like, where students in middle and high school can be part of an ongoing youth group where they feel comfortable bringing friends and growing in their faith...and having a lot of fun!

2. We are exploring new ways for people of all ages to learn and grow in faith through prayer and other practices.

3. We are considering some new ways to engage in music and art so that people can come and experience God through creativity and artistic expression.

4. We are asking around in the community about some of the deepest needs that people have that we might be able to address in a meaningful way.

5. We are moving forward with our capital campaign projects and plan to see major changes on our church campus by the holidays later in the year!

I invite you to join in on the energy, inspiration and fun that seems to be everywhere in our church these days. I also invite you to make a generous and heartfelt financial commitment to our general fund for 2016. I believe one of our greatest years as a church lies before us, and I ask you to support all of our ministries by letting us know your plans in terms of how you would like to commit yourself financially. Those who are on our regular mailing list will be receiving a letter in the mail from me this week, along with a small card to share one of your dreams for our church, and a commitment card for the general fund for 2016. Please fill out both cards and bring them to church on October 4th for an inspiring day of worship and celebration, including a fun Oktoberfest during the Aloha Hour after church.

Mahalo nui for sharing your dreams and your life with Kōloa Union Church!

Aloha nui loa!
Kahu Alan Akana



Your **Capital Campaign** dollars already hard at work! Have you noticed how prominent the white cross is now? The improvements are slowly evolving!!!!



ALOHA HOUR

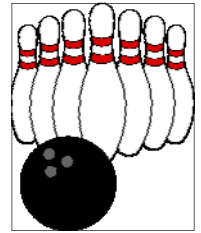
- Oct 04—Giovanni Osuga—*Oktoberfest*
- Oct 11—Odo Honjo Foley
- Oct 18—Asahi Rebb Ito
- Oct 25—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey
- Nov 01—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning
- Nov 08—Ramos Moe Baptiste
- Nov 15—Machin Kunimura Brierley
- Nov 22—Giovanni Osuga
- Nov 29—Odo Honjo Foley

What: Bowling

Where: Lihue Bowling Center

When: October 23, 7-9 pm

Who: Everyone, young and old, children and adults, bring your friends!!!



Please join us for a fun night! \$13/per person who bowls. Enjoy the colorful lights and great music. There will be 2 bumper lanes. Please let Bonnie know if you will be using the bumper lanes. Smoke and alcohol free facility so definitely family friendly environment. Food is available at the snack bar. There will be a sign up sheet.

DEACONS ON DUTY

OCTOBER

Sheryl Ramos

Kei Osuga

NOVEMBER

Phyllis Kunimura

Graceleanor Baird

LAYREADERS

- October 04—Larry Chaffin
- October 11—Jo Anne Machin
- October 18—Kei Osuga
- October 25—Rosemary Smythe
- November 01—Edie Moe
- November 08—Kerry Mori
- November 15—Debbie Gunning
- November 22—Doug Duvauchelle

Our Prayers: Prayers of healing for Linda Baldwin’s father, Phyllis Kunimura, Remie Barnum, Tiffany Marrotte, Jo Duvauchelle, Francisca Padua, Debbie Gunning, Al Pugsley, Ted Asahi, Luke Rita and Kimo Marrotte; prayers of condolence for the families of Karen Lai, Jackson Hamamura, Chiyo Ueunten; prayers of peace and comfort for Miyeko Yamane, Al Moe, John Lustman; prayers of comfort for all who suffer.



Oktoberfest

October 4, 2015

Be sure to join us on October 4th for our Oktoberfest during the Aloha Hour right after church. There will be lots of good German food! We have a lot to celebrate and much to look forward to in the coming year! And please remember to bring your completed commitment card and “This Is My Dream” card to church with you on the 4th!

Kaua‘i Association Event

‘Aha Mokupuni

You are invited to join us at our fall island-wide gathering of UCC churches on Sunday, November 1, at 3:00 p.m. at Church of the Pacific in Princeville. Join us for worship, inspiring music, fun and great food on the north shore. This is an event for all ages. Dinner will be served after our worship service.

Stewardship

We will be completing our “Creating a Future with Hope” on October 4, 2015. I hope you have been praying “A Prayer for a Future with Hope” and will join me on Sunday, October 4th in making a financial commitment for our church and vision for 2016. This offering goes to our general fund. Please bring your commitment card with you on October 4. (This card will be sent to you in the mail).

In the following four weeks we will share with you about our annual offering for Neighbors In Need and where our donations will be focused in the coming year. Neighbors In Need is one of our “5 for 5” special offerings. Overall the NIN is the UCC’s annual offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. This year 33% of our donation will go toward the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). How will we help erase an old federal law from 1823 which actually originated from European Christian churches in the 1400s that justified the pattern of domination and oppression of governments as they discovered the Western Hemisphere? The offering will be taken on November 4, 2015.

Thank you for your generosity.

Debbie Gunning, Stewardship Chair

My Dream for Koloa Union

My most favorite dream for our church is that each one of us (Heck, why not shoot for the moon!!) has a daily prayer practice consisting of Bible or Sacred Scripture reading of some kind. I would also want prayers (and hopes) for the world, for our loved ones, ourselves, our church, our island, our state and our country. And maybe a few moments of pure quiet sitting.

I'd love to have and belong to a church prayer group

And my most secret of dreams is to have a church Centering Prayer group which meets and "sits" together.

May all our dream come true!!!!

Thank you, Karen, for putting your dreams in writing!! During this time of hoping and dreaming for our church, we invite everyone to share their dreams for Koloa Union Church on October 4.



AUNTY NIELE'S NEWSY NOTES

By Penny Osuga

NOTE: Penny Osuga is Auntie Niele, our reporter for this column. Niele is the Hawaiian word for "nosy." If you have any news to share in this column, please contact Auntie Ni`ele at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: kucpenny@gmail.com.

Kauai High School Class of '65 rocks! We just celebrated our 50th class reunion, part 2, here on Kauai!!!! A few more pounds, aches and pains, but still a very close group of friends! Thank you, **Francisca Padua**, for the weekly desserts!



We love them! She recently spent some time in the San Francisco area visiting family. This summer **Palani** did a two week solo hike in the Sierra Nevadas...after traveling to China and Japan with Dad, **Kahu**. Then he spent two weeks in Iceland! He soon starts back at *Stanford*. **Bonnie & Betty** enjoyed time in New York: fine dining, shows, shopping.

Uncle Doug taught **Kaylee, Krayson & Uncle**



Diki how to make the *pu'ohē* (Hawaiian bamboo trumpet)! We enjoyed having **Devin** start



Kaylee & Devin start **Sunday** services blowing their *pu'ohē*. We loved having **Chito** in church recently. So awesome having the choir back from their summer hiatus!

Thank you everyone who volunteers for our popular *Aloha Hour* and as lay readers. **Dan & Naomi** spent time in Japan! **Grandma Becky** flew off to SoCal to visit with new grandson **Jayden!!!!** **Koloa Union** has always



enjoyed and appreciated "special music" during Sunday service! Absolutely loved the two songs sung by **Mark, Jamie & Peter Baldwin and**



Becky! There were a lot of foot-tapping and clapping going on!!! **Kerry & Lynn Mori** spent some fun days on the Big Island with

family/friends. The weekly "bookgroup" (*Christianity after Religion*) was such a hit it was extended a couple weeks!



There were usually 10-15 attendees. Thanks to **Sheri & Joni**

for helping out with Sunday School while **Tiffany** was on Oahu. Heard from longtime church friends, **Marv & Marilyn Onstott**.

They are doing well, spend the winter on Oahu now, instead of Kauai. We miss them. Also been in touch with **Duane & Ida Verschoof**—they send their love to all. **Al & Carole Pugsley** are all dressed up



for their granddaughter's wedding! A few church members participated in the *Hanapepe Int'l Day of Peace*. **Edie** traveled to Southern California recently.

While there, she went to church with our associate members, **Phil & Susan Ruputz** in Ramona! Thanks to **Fay** for her great talk on "HOPE." Two of



our youth will be attending the annual Fall UCC Youth Camp on Oahu, Camp Erdman. Here they are earning





KOLOA UNION CHURCH

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KOLOA UNION CHURCH

SUNDAY EVENTS

**10:30 a.m. Sunday School and
Worship Service**

STAFF

**Rev. Dr. Alan Akana, Pastor
revdocakana@gmail.com**

**Penny Osuga,
Administrative Assistant
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**Fay Bartels, Director of Music
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