



# Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

November 2016

## ***A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA***

### **And Who Is My Neighbor?**

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

These past few weeks, we have been asking the question, “And who is my neighbor?” This is not a new question for us. In fact, our spiritual ancestors began asking that question in 1835 when our congregation was first established; and, with each new group of people arriving on the south shore of Kauaʻi, we have been asking that question ever since. There have always been neighbors with needs that our church has addressed. As we begin to look to the new year, plan priorities and budgets, I cannot think of a better thing on which to focus.

There are many needs on our island and I know that we cannot address them all with our full attention. Therefore, I ask you to join me in this time of discernment. I invite you to open your eyes and see where the greatest needs might be; to open your ears and hear where the cries come from the deepest places of the soul; to open your hearts and sense where God’s Spirit is stirring in them.

This time of discerning will culminate (though certainly not end!) on November 6. On that day, we will create a banner of hearts; on each heart will be a word or phrase listing or describing a kind of neighbor or group of neighbors who have needs in our community. I invite everyone to write down on a paper heart (provided for you!) the kind of neighbor with a deep need and bring your heart to church on or before November 6. Our members and regular attendees should have already received a heart by now. If you have not received one, please contact

Penny at the church office and ask for yours. By participating in this project, you will help us create a beautiful banner of all the people with whom we wish to share our aloha.

On November 6, we will also have our annual “Blessing of Commitments” during the worship service. This is an important practice that we do each fall in order to seek God’s blessing as we plan our mission and help our Church Council plan our budget beginning in January. I encourage every member and friend of Kōloa Union Church to support our vision to reach out to our neighbors by filling out a commitment card and bringing it to church on or before the 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Penny if you would like a commitment card mailed to you.

As we continue this time of prayer and discernment, I invite you to keep on praying this prayer:

O God, as we seek to reach out into our  
community  
by sharing aloha with everyone in the coming  
year, open my heart  
so that love will freely flow in and out of it.  
May the commitment I make truly represent  
the gratitude  
I have to you for all that Kōloa Union Church  
means to me.  
Amen!

Aloha nui loa!  
Kahu Alan Akana



## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY, April 22, 2017

8:00 am—Noon

Do your spring cleaning early!  
Clean out your garages, closets, spare bedrooms. We are accepting donations in preparation for our annual “rummage sale”. Drop off your items at the church—check with Judyth for drop-off times.



## ALOHA HOUR

November 06—Odo Honjo Foley  
November 13—Asahi Rebb Ito Shim  
November 20—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey  
November 27—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning  
December 04—Ramos Moe Baptiste  
December 11—Dunas Kunimura Osuga  
December 18—Giovanni Osuga Machin Dressel  
December 25—Odo Honjo Foley  
January 01—Asahi Rebb Ito Shim

Looking for meal servers  
on (fifth) Wednesday, November 30, 2016.  
Call Judyth (818)726-1344)



## USHERS

### NOVEMBER

Phyllis Kunimura  
Graceleanor Baird

### DECEMBER

Sheryl Ramos  
Doug Duvauchelle

## LAYREADERS

November 06—Kei Osuga  
November 13—Rosemary Smythe  
November 20—Edie Moe  
November 27—Kerry Mori  
December 04—Debbie Gunning  
December 11—Doug Duvauchelle  
December 18—Graceleanor Baird  
December 25—Phyllis Kunimura  
January 01—Larry Chaffin  
January 08—Virginia Dunas

**Our Prayers:** prayers for guidance & strength for Lizzie Macaninch (Mike Canorro's niece), Steven, Cammie Matsumoto, John Kube, Auntie Jeannie (Jo Duvauchelle's sister), Harriot Siegrist (Debbie's mother), Dave Ellis (friend of Sam/Karen Tucci), Vernon Fu, Jo Johannesen, Shore Strong, Linda (Edie's sister), Daniel Tunney, Joseph Alapai, Sheila Heathcote, Larry Hanson, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Tamiko & Ted Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort for the families of Dollie Brierley, George Buckner, Duane Thomas, Kiyoko Sako, Lily Sueoka; prayers of peace and comfort for Emiko Akana, Mieko Yamane.



## Maika`i Hana Hou!

### **(Creating Goodness & Beauty Once Again!)**

Amazing changes continue to happen as the result of our successful capital campaign! All of our landscaping, including our lawn and new plants and flowers are looking fantastic! Thank you to Larry Chaffin who waters every day! We recently completed the following projects:

- Installed our new koa flower stand, which beautifully matches our pulpit. Thank you to Larry and Pat Chaffin who donated this “over and above” gift in honor of their children and grand children!
- Installed our beautiful and efficient ceiling fans, which provide much greater airflow throughout the sanctuary. Thank you to Mike Canorro who donated this “over and above” gift in memory of Judy Greene!
- Planted another “Hawaiian Garden” along the southeast strip of our parking lot, thanks to the Girl Scouts and Kerin Lilleeng-Rosenberger!
- Moved the support beam from in front of the entrance walkway in order to free up space as people enter and exit the sanctuary.
- Painted the doors and all of the trim in Kahu’s office so that it matches the rest of our new color scheme.

We are making final plans to enclose a foyer and the outdoor area where the pews are currently located. This project will begin in 2017. Mahalo nui to Dan Giovanni for keeping everything on track and moving forward, and to all of our generous donors!

## Kaua`i Association (United Church of Christ)

### **2016 Fall `Aha Mokupuni**

You are invited to spend the afternoon with your church family and friends, to have small group discussions and meaningful dialog, followed by worship and a delicious meal. This year’s theme is “Looking Back, Moving Forward”, Philippians 3:12-14. Lihue Christian Church, Sunday November 6, 3 pm (group discussions), 5 pm (youth led worship), 5:30 pm (dinner). Three questions to be addressed: (1) What are the “Sacred Cows” or “Pink Elephants” in your church?; (2) What are the things of eternal value in your church?; (3) How is God calling your church to lay hold of the things of eternal value? We can carpool over.

## Hawai`i Conference (United Church of Christ)

### **Conference-wide Assessment**

The Hawai`i Conference is entering a phase of assessing its mission and ministry. Beginning in November, interviews and focus groups will take place throughout the Conference. The Kaua`i module will take place the week of January 23, with the focus group at Lihue Christian Church on Tuesday evening, January 24, at 5:30. All UCC members on Kaua`i are invited to attend and give input. An assessment report will be available in March. Once the report has been reviewed by the Conference Council, a period of strategic planning of our future mission and ministry will begin.

## And Who Is My Neighbor?

### **Pay It Forward**

I am very grateful for everyone who is able to make financial commitments, which support the running of our church and reaching out to our neighbors in the upcoming year. Please remember to bring your commitment card and your paper heart to church on Sunday, November 6, when we have our "Blessing of Commitments." If you are unable to do this, please do so by November 13. This is really helpful for our Church Council in planning next year's budget. Special thanks to Virginia Dunas and Sharon McCoubrey for helping assemble the stewardship envelopes this year.

Mahalo, Debbie Gunning (Stewardship Chair)

### **Who Is My Neighbor?**

My neighbors are the church community, my family, Koloa Town, people I pray for. All the people who smile back when I greet them around town, and those that don't, are also my neighbors.

Members of our church, individually, have been helping our neighbors through the Koloa School Volunteer program, serving meals at the Salvation Army in Hanapepe, volunteering at Nana's House, Habitat for Humanity and the Koloa Senior Center. Many of our member just help quietly, wherever they see a need. There are many of these opportunities to help in our neighborhood, especially among the lonely seniors and low income families.

The upcoming Holiday Season offers us a perfect chance to help. The Outreach Committee is planning to help ten low-income families with all the groceries for their Thanksgiving meal. We will plan, shop, pack and deliver the meals from turkeys to cranberries the day before Thanksgiving. Then they will be able to cook the meal for their families. We will need help in find the families. Do you know a family in need? Are you available to plan, shop, pack, deliver?

Call Judyth (818) 726-1344 or Missy (808) 652-3054

We plan a similar outreach at Christmas. Please be sure to write your ideas on your paper heart and bring it to church on November 6!!

Mahalo, Judyth Foley (Outreach Chair)

## Looking for Housing in January

### **A Request from Kahu**

The Rev. Al Oliver will be on Kaua'i to prepare and facilitate our Conference assessment interviews and focus groups, beginning January 18. He would like to come early with his wife to enjoy our island. If anyone is aware of a free or inexpensive studio or apartment available January 6 through 26, please contact Kahu, who has known Al as a friend and colleague for nearly 20 years.

## Thanksgiving Outreach

### **Thanksgiving Dinner in a Box**

Thanks to a generous donor, we have enough money to purchase 10 turkeys for hungry families in our community. For each family, we plan to place a turkey in a box along with all the trimmings! We will also visit the local food bank to see what they have that we can use for our Thanksgiving boxes. If you would like to contribute food items, we will have a list at church during November. If you would like to contribute financially, please write "Hunger Outreach" on your check or envelope. Any money that is not used for our

Thanksgiving Outreach will roll over into our Christmas Outreach when we give food and other items to local families. If you know any families we can help, have any questions, or wish to volunteer, please contact Judyth Foley at 818-726-1344.

## Christmas Outreach

### **Spare Change to Help Needy Families**

We plan to give gift cards to families in our community before Christmas so that they can have food and gifts for their children. Can you bring your spare change to church between now and December 11? Just place it in the Spare Change Jar as you enter or leave the church. We will add up our change on December 11 and purchase gift cards for local stores. If you know any families we can help, have any questions, or wish to volunteer, please contact Judyth Foley at 818-726-1344.

## November Worship

November 6: The Blessing of Our Commitments

Join us as we celebrate Holy Communion, create a banner of hearts, and bless our commitments. This will be the final Sunday with our theme, "And Who Is My Neighbor?"

November 13: TBD

November 20: Thanksgiving Sunday

Come to church prepared to share the things that you are most thankful for in life.

November 27: First Sunday of Advent

Advent is a season to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join us on this special day as we light the Advent candle of HOPE.

## Pre-Holiday Cleaning and Decorating

We will be doing pre-holiday cleaning and holiday decorating on November 19, 2016, 8 a.m. Uncle Diki will provide the Christmas tree that will need decorating. We will also need to create our Advent wreath. Please plan on helping: dusting, cleaning, sprucing up for the holiday season, decorating the Christmas tree. Lunch will be served.





# AUNTY NIELE'S NEWSY NOTES

By Penny Osuga

*NOTE: Penny Osuga is Aunty 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 Aunty Ni'e at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: [kucpenny@gmail.com](mailto:kucpenny@gmail.com).*

Every time you go to the post office and get a receipt, the clerks ask you to please take a survey online. The **Koloa Post Office** is **#1** for the most survey responses in the state!!! Meaning we love our post office and post mistress, **Dani** and clerks!!! Again, thanks to **Larry** for keeping the front yard and plants watered and happy. **Kei & I** have been away for a month: abalone diving (our nephews) in northern California, spending time with family and friends, love our time in San Francisco, Japanese Tea Garden in the Golden Gate Park, walked across the Golden Gate Bridge (and back!!), **(Kei)** Red River Rivalry football game in Dallas with **Dan Giovanni**, time with our 3 grandsons, etc, etc, But, always great to be home. **Dan & Naomi** are on a 2-1/2 week vacay somewhere in Italy! Hope they weren't affected by the earthquakes. **Becky** is enjoying retirement in Oregon with family and friends! Congratulations, **Becky!!!!** Thanks you, **Larry & Pat Chaffin** for donating the beautiful koa flower stand. It is magnificent. Thanks to our friend, **Rev. Ed**



**Terui**, for filling our pulpit when our **Kahu Alan** was at a pastor's retreat on Oahu. **Ed & Jan Terui** just returned from a trip to Korea with some of our friends. Thanks, **Doug**, for also filling our pulpit while

**Kahu** was on vacation. Chatted with **Peter Baldwin** the other day. **He & Linda** really enjoyed the bluegrass concert in Arizona!!! Great having **Mike/Fran Johnshoy** back on island. I would guess that **Sydney & Caleb** had a blast at *Legoland and Disneyland!!!* Their cousins from Washington joined them. **Kahu** with **Rev. John Dorhauer**, General Minister/President of the United Church of Christ. Our **Kahu** represented the *Kauai Association* in the Conference's affirmation of **Rev. Dorhauer's** ministry among us. We were blessed by a visit from the **Kamehameha Deputation Team**. There were 4 juniors accompanied by **Kahu Kordell Kekoa**.

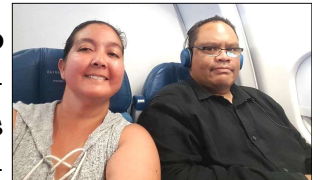


The deputation team started in 1948, they “aspire to be God’s ambassadors to all people”. Thanks again to **Tom/Lynda Armbruster** for the beautiful altar flowers in memory of **Jared Knapp Smith**. **Bill & Angela Dressel** spent some time in California, Reno (?), then on to Copenhagen, Denmark, a Norwegian cruise, France, Spain, Portugal! Hope they remember to come home!!!! Congratulations!!! **Lee & Carol Bowen** celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary! Don’t they look awesome!?!?!? They return to Kauai on or about January 4 as do the **Bakers** and **Pugsleys!!** Three of our youth (**Kaylee, Krayson, Eli**) attended the *Fall Youth Camp* at *Mokule-ia* on Oahu’s North Shore. There were 50 youth and leaders, October 9-12. This year’s theme: *Metamorphosis* included youth from around



the islands for worship, arts and crafts, music, play, swim and friendship. Thank you, **Rev. Bob Smith**, for filling our pulpit when our **Kahu** attended a *Pacific School of Religion* board meeting. Thank you, **Debbie**, for working so hard as *Steward-*

*ship Chairperson*. And thanks to **JoAnne** who is watering the sanctuary plants, cleaning up the “welcome cart”, working in the office for me, tending to the altar candles, reading to students at Koloa School (Caleb is in one of her classes), and much more. Thanks to **Fay** for filling in one Sunday each month as organist. **Tiffany & Kimo** are on a vacation adventure: flying to Texas and then driving to Florida! Cannot wait to hear of their escapades! Thank you, **Francisca**, for bringing pastries to church every Sunday to serve at our Aloha Hours. Congratulations to **Greg, Jenni, Evan, Ella and Chase!** They recently moved into their brand new home! Anyone out there wanting to join our **Aloha Hour** team? We have a turn every 7 weeks. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times we serve. Let me know, thanks. Received a really nice note from **Ed & Carol Perrin**. They send their “aloha” to everyone, they had a busy summer, they will be back on island in January!! **Aunty Chito**



**Isonaga** celebrated her 101st birthday, an accomplishment indeed. I hear our friend, **Cathy Evans** is on-island! Cannot wait to have her in church with us. The front lawn has grown so quickly. We have already opened it up for special parking. **Palani** and friends arrive in a couple of days **Kahu Kordell** singing with our youth.





KOLOA UNION CHURCH  
P.O. BOX 536  
3289 POIPU ROAD  
KOLOA, HAWAII 96756



## 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  
kucpenny@gmail.com

Kathleen Dahill  
Director of Music  
Kathleen@WildwdStudios.com

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## Newsletter - November 2016

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Note from Kahu Akana	1
Rummage Sale, Salvation Army Servers	2
Aloha Hour, Ushers, Lay Readers, Prayers	2
Announcements, Upcoming Events	3
Announcements, Upcoming Events	4
Announcements, Upcoming Events	5
Aunty Niele	6
Aunty Niele	7