



# Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

January 2017

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

### **Happy New Year: Celebrate & Anticipate!**

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

As 2016 comes to a close and a new year begins, there is much to celebrate and a lot to anticipate! In addition to getting on top of our finances, we have had a tremendously successful year with our capital campaign projects, including our new parking lot, landscaping, signage and outdoor lighting, photovoltaic solar panels, beautiful koa furnishings, and newly painted buildings. Our facilities are looking fantastic and all of our projects were paid for with cash on hand! In 2017, we plan to install our irrigation system and complete our landscaping; install tinting and special designs on some of the windows; create a foyer and enclose additional space in the sanctuary; create cabinet space for worship materials and items for the Deacons; and add more seating in the sanctuary. We will also begin our plans for making a nice women's restroom and make some upgrades to the men's restroom, as well as for expanding the office area. The capital campaign also gave \$5,000 to our permanent funds and \$1,000 to our youth funds (part of the initial capital campaign plans).

I am also happy to announce that Kathleen Dahill is now our permanent Music Director! Kathleen met with the Board of Deacons in December after her 3-month probation period, which was part of her contract when she was hired. They affirmed her for working so well with our church choir, bringing new music to

our worship services, being a voice coach to choir members and others, her work with children and youth, and for sharing her talent with us! I am so pleased with the new music, positive energy and ways to celebrate God's presence among us that Kathleen brings to us!

Another highlight worth mentioning is the increase in activity among the children and youth. Under the guidance of Tiffany Marrotte, our Sunday School Superintendent and Youth Coordinator, we have seen a lot more children and teenagers showing up and participating in the life of the church. The people of Koloa Union Church have been welcoming and encouraging of our young people and their families, and I look forward to seeing even more of this trend in the coming year!

A final highlight for me has been the significant increase in the service to the community, under the guidance of Judyth Foley, our Outreach Chairperson. We have been feeding people over the holidays and bringing joy to children and families who don't have the financial blessings that many of us enjoy. We have fed families and delivered gifts to children. I am so impressed by our congregation's generosity to struggling families on the south shore! I am also looking forward to the new ways in which God's Spirit leads us in sharing aloha with everyone!

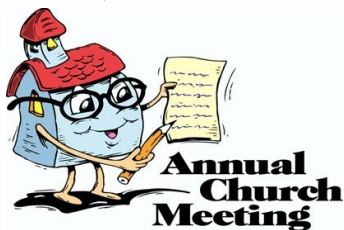
Aloha nui loa!

Kahu Alan Akana



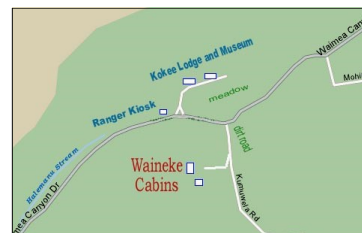
**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING****Sunday, January 29, 2017**

Please plan on attending as we need to hear your voices, we need your input and votes. We will be presenting the church budget for 2017, plans and dreams, slate of officers.

**WAINKE WORKDAYS****January 26-28, 2017**

Time to show our appreciation for our two Kokee cabins by giving them some TLC.

Details to follow.

**MOVIE NIGHT****FRIDAY, January 13, 2017**

Details to follow

**USHERS****JANUARY**

JoRae Baptiste  
Debbie Gunning

**FEBRUARY**

Sheryl Ramos  
Kei Osuga

**ALOHA HOUR**

January 01—Rebb Ito Shim  
January 08—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey  
January 15—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning  
January 22—Ramos Moe Baptiste  
January 29—Dunas Kunimura xxxxxx  
February 5—Giovanni Machin Osuga  
February 12—Odo Honjo Foley  
February 19—Rebb Ito Shim  
February 26—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey

**LAYREADERS**

January 01—Larry Chaffin  
January 08—Virginia Dunas  
January 15—JoAnne Machin  
January 22—Kei Osuga  
January 29—Rosemary Smythe  
February 05—Edie Moe  
February 12—Kerry Mori  
February 19—Debbie Gunning  
February 26—Doug Duvauchelle  
March 05—Graceleanor Baird

**Our Prayers:** prayers for guidance & strength for Kaniana Smythe, Jerry (Phyllis Kunimura's nephew), Don Coffman, Mario Mariani, Lizzie Macaninch, Jim Priest, Steven, John Kube, Harriot Siegrist, Dave Ellis (friend of Sam/Karen Tucci), Vernon Fu, Jo Johannesen, Shore Strong, Linda (Edie's sister), Daniel Tunney, Joseph Alapai, Sheila Heathcote, Brenda (Judyth Foley's daughter), Jo Duvauchelle, Tamiko & Ted Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort for the families of Jon Togioka, Daniel O'Flaherty and Dollie Brierley; prayers of peace and comfort for Emiko Akana, Mieko Yamane.



## The Church Bell on Sunday Mornings

### Why We Ring the Bell before Worship Services

The church bell typically rings about 10 minutes before the worship service and is a reminder for people to start making their way to the sanctuary. Please keep in mind that there are people who like to arrive early for prayer and meditation in the sanctuary in order to prepare themselves for a spirit of worship. Your silence and whispers are greatly appreciated by them! Turning off cellphones and other noisemaking devices is also helpful for others to enter into a spirit of worship.

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

### Conference-wide Assessment

The Hawai`i Conference is entering a phase of assessing its mission and ministry. Interviews and focus groups have been completed on O`ahu and Hawai`i Islands. 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.



Our "tallest" bell ringer(s)



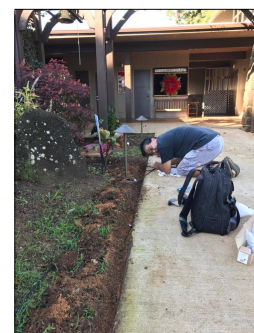
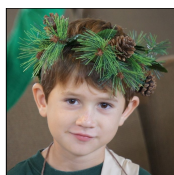
Grandma Doris  
dressing the children  
for their skit



Sydney welcoming Toyo to church



Cap. Campaign  
update



This is how Mo spends  
his vacation...installing  
our walkway lighting!!!

# 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).*

Who doesn't love **Garth Brooks & Trisha Yearwood?** Am certain that **Bill/Angela**

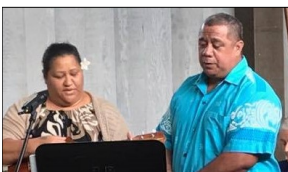


**Dressel** and **Greg/Jenni Batalucco** enjoyed their Honolulu concert! I am **green** with envy! The *United Health Foundation*

states that **Hawaii** is the healthiest state to live in!!! Again: lucky we live **Hawaii**, eh? Some of our youth attended the state-wide camp on Oahu in October. They had a very successful bake sale, working towards repaying the church for helping fund that trip. **Kaylee, Krayson, Eli** are awesome



bakers!!! Enjoyed the music of the **Spencers** from the North Shore, thanks to



**Kathy.** Thank you, **Christine**, for distributing our Christmas postcards to so many of the South Shore condos &

hotels with **Kahu**. Thanks to **Kerry "Mo"**, our arbor and sidewalks are brighter! He will light the entire approach soon! Thank you to **Judyth** for sharing her Nativity scene displayed

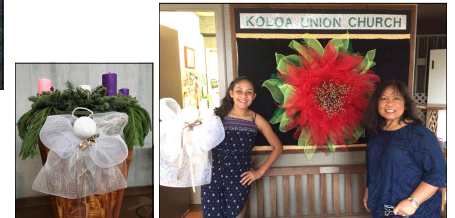


on our altar table. **Pat & Larry** are on a cruise going to the Panama Canal!!! Look who just turned ONE...precious **Kairi!!!**



angel!!! Great having **Palani** "home" on

Thanks to **Joey Rebb** for another stunning Christmas "wreath" and the



Kauai for a while. Been chatting with church friends, **Duane/Ida Verschoof**. They've had a freezing winter so far, are heading to warmer climate for a couple months. **Ida** is still singing in their church choir and a local chorale. They send their *aloha* to everyone. Wonderful article in the *Garden Island* on our **Jean Odo**, now on the *Board of Dtrs* of **Hale Kipa**. **Jean's** objective: she wants students to succeed! The **Japanese Consulate** honored **Toyo** as he recently celebrated his 100th birthday! Others were also honored including our family friend, **Kikue Yamamoto** of Waimea. Had our annual Christmas party at the parsonage....lots of food, fun, laughter and song!



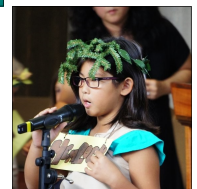
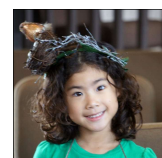


Thanks to **Judyth** (and her very special Santa's helpers: **Sharon & Missy**) for pulling off her Christmas dream of creating food boxes for 10 disadvantaged families! And thanks to YOUR generosity these boxes were stuffed with gifts for the children, a ham, fresh dinner rolls, canned veggies, fresh fruits & much more! Thank you, **Judyth**, for your vision, your heart



and for letting us share in that "feel good" spirit!! Thanks to **Angela** for sharing your art of quilting, lighting the Advent 'candle of love' and for reminding us to "never forget the virtue of love."

2017 pledge envelopes are ready to pick up. The **deacons** will be handing them out. See **Penny** if your name is not on a box set. **Kaylee & Trestany** helped **Toys For Tots** at Wal-Mart. Thanks, **Kaylee**, for your beautiful solo: "O Holy Night." Am in touch with **John Lunn**, our former pastor. He sends his warmest "seasons greetings" to all. He is enjoying his 1st Hawaii Christmas in many many years at Grace Episcopal on Molokai. Had one of the BEST Sunday school Christmas Programs...ever! Our children/youth led us in worship and performed a very special story about "The Littlest Tree." Was so so so cute, the kids were amazing, memorizing all their lines, practiced for weeks. Thanks to SS Director, **Tiffany Marrotte, Trudi, Grandma Doris, Sheri, Doug**. They worked with the youth, made all their head gear and costumes!





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

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Kathleen@WildwdStudios.com

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## Newsletter - January 2017

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