



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

July 2017

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

A WELCOMING AND INVITING COMMUNITY

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

The celebration of the two-year anniversary of our capital campaign on June 11 took place a day after the 27th anniversary of my ordination as a minister. I want you to know that the celebration was one of the highlights of my past 27 years of ministry! As I consider everything that we have accomplished over the past two years, I am filled with gratitude for God's blessings and for the people of Kōloa Union Church. We have already accomplished so much—both inside the church and outside in our new entryway, parking lot and landscaping. As I am writing this article, a man has just driven into our parking lot, stepped out and took pictures of our church. This never happened two years ago! People feel drawn to the beauty that we have created together.

Nearly three years ago, before we even talked about a capital campaign, we decided as a church that we want to look more inviting and have the appearance of a welcoming community of faith. The capital campaign has been a huge part of that. However, it is not just the appearance of a building or property that makes a church welcoming and inviting. It is primarily the people. It is their open hearts and minds, their love for each other, new visitors, and

people in our community with all kinds of needs. We are that kind of church—a community of faith that welcomes and loves everyone: old and young, male and female, all ethnic and cultural backgrounds, citizens and immigrants, people who grew up with a solid Christian foundation and people who are brand new to the Christian faith.

As we continue on our journey, may we look for new ways to invite and welcome people. May we be especially mindful of those who have no family here and those who belong to families where love and acceptance is not found for them.

Thank you for being such a loving and welcoming people of faith and for supporting the ministry of Koloa Union Church through your prayers and the offering of your time, talent and treasures.

Aloha nui loa!
Kahu Alan Akana



It's THAT time again..... **ROCK & BOWL!!!**



Friday, June 30, 2017, 7—9 pm, \$14

Come early to get shoes, balls.

There is a sign up sheet for bowlers, bumper lanes, ages.

Questions? See Bonnie



Looking for office volunteers when Penny is on vacation. Need someone to occupy the office, answer calls, pick up the mail, light bookwork.

Please see Kahu or Penny.

ALOHA HOUR

July 02—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey

July 09—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

July 16—Ramos Baptiste Stoner

July 23—Giovanni Osuga Strong

July 30—Odo Honjo Foley Dunas

August 06—Ito Rebb Shim

August 13—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey

August 20—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

August 27—Ramos Baptiste Stoner

Kōloa Plantation Days *Many Cultures, One Community*

We celebrate the 32nd year for Koloa Plantation Days. Mark your calendars for Koloa Union's participation:

Open House: Monday, July 24, 4—6 p.m.

“Plantation-style Living: An Afternoon of Art, Stories, Refreshments”

at our Smith Memorial Parsonage,
3281 Waikomo Road.

Need volunteers to host & serve refreshments.

Parade: Saturday, July 29, 10 a.m.

Looking for volunteers to decorate, wear/carry items from your family background in parade.

USHERS

JULY

Phyllis Kunimura

Graceleanor Baird

AUGUST

Virginia Dunas

Doug Duvauchelle

LAYREADERS

July 02—Kei Osuga

July 09—Rosemary Smythe

July 16—Edie Moe

July 23—

July 30—Debbie Gunning

August 06—Kaylee Alapai

August 13—Doug Duvauchelle

August 20—Graceleanor Baird

August 27—Phyllis Kunimura

September 03—Angela Dressel

Our Prayers: Prayers for guidance & strength for Fay Bartels,, Luke Rita, Vernon Parongao, Bob Hammerquist, Carl (Steve & Yvonne's neighbor), Shellee Riggio (and her ex-husband), Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Billy (Patsy's cousin), Jean (Joy's friend), Barbara Johnson, Al Pugsley, Jerry (Phyllis Kunimura's nephew), Lizzie Macaninch, Steven, John Kube, Dave Ellis, Vernon Fu, Jo Johannesen, Shore Strong, Linda (Edie's sister), Daniel Tunney, Joseph Alapai, Sheila Heathcote, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Ted Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of peace and comfort for Emiko Akana and Miyeko Yamane: prayers of comfort for the families of Harry Lau (Rosemary's father) and Wayne Tanaka.



Summer Book Group

***Convictions* by Marcus Borg**

Kahu Akana will lead our summer book group at the parsonage on Wednesday evenings, beginning on June 14. The group will gather at the parsonage at 6 p.m. for dinner and then discuss the book *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*, by Marcus J. Borg. Kahu can order books for \$10 (includes shipping). In this book, Borg reflects on his life and how he developed his most bedrock convictions—and why they matter. Here is an excerpt from the book: “Imagine that Christianity is about loving God. Imagine that it’s not about the self and its concerns, about ‘what’s in it for me,’ whether that be a blessed after-life or prosperity in this life. Imagine that loving God is about being attentive to the one in whom we live and move and have our being. Imagine that it is about becoming more and more deeply centered in God. Imagine that it is about loving what God loves.” ***Please sign up on the bulletin board at church so that Kahu knows how many books to order and how much food to prepare.***

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) is comprised of Douglas Duvauchelle, Debbie Gunning, Josie Parongao (chair), and Kahu Akana. The committee held their annual meeting on June 19, 2017. The purpose of the PPRC is: to enable the congregation and the pastor to work together effectively by promoting, nurturing, supporting and maintaining open communication and relationships; channel and clarify concerns and expectations; serve as a sounding board; affirm the Pastor; and alleviate potential or actual conflict situations.

The role of the committee is to assist, rather than to evaluate. We believe that the best way to address concerns or complaints is to go directly to the source. Therefore, if a member has a concern or complaint, please speak directly to the pastor whenever possible. Although we hope the services of the PPRC are never needed, if a member needs assistance to resolve a concern, complaint or conflict with the pastor, please contact any member on the PPRC.

Mahalo nui loa!

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

Koloa Plantation Days at the Parsonage

Koloa Union Church To Host Reception

“Plantation-Style Living: An Afternoon of Art, Stories and Refreshment”

Monday, July 24 4-6 p.m. (Lecture at 4:30 by Kahu Akana)

Please sign up to help with this special outreach to the community. We want people to volunteer to greet, give tours of the parsonage, oversee the refreshment table, and more. Most volunteers are requested to arrive between 3 and 3:30 p.m. Guests will tour the beautiful house and, learn about the history of the early missionaries doctors in Koloa who once lived on the property and how the arrival of Dr. James and Melicent Smith in 1842 shaped the history of Koloa. At 4:30 p.m. Kahu Akana will share stories about the Smith-Waterhouse Family, the building and land, and his watercolors of the flowers of Hawai'i. You will also enjoy live entertainment, plantation iced tea and homemade cookies.

Participants and volunteers who are able are requested to park at the church.

Koloa Plantation Days Parade

Koloa Union Church To March, Saturday July 29

195th 'Aha Pae'aina

“United in Spirit and inspired by God’s Grace, we welcome all, love all and seek justice for all.”

Kahu Akana and Bonnie Kakinami represented Koloa Union on Maui.
June 16 & 17, 2017

The Aha Makua began on Thursday with Opening Worship. Worship was followed by our first plenary session led by Caroline Miura which was about Holy Listening. She shared “Learning to listen is a key that unlocks the door to loving people. For to listen is to continually give up all expectation and to give our attention, completely and freshly, to what is before us....with a willingness to be changed by what we hear.”

Our afternoon began with Celebrations and Koloa Union Church was again honored and presented a certificate for being a generous “Five for Five” church in mission giving to Our Church’s Wider Mission Basic Support and the four special church-wide offerings.

This was followed by the introduction of resolutions. The first one had to do with asking the Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ to affirm the efforts made thus far toward a memorial listing the names of the more than 8,000 persons sent to Kalaupapa. The resolution also encourages churches and individuals to support the memorial by observing Kalaupapa Sunday and making donations toward the erection and maintenance of the memorial. The second resolution urged the UCC churches to become Encouraging Immigrant Welcoming Congregations. Both resolutions passed.

Our next two sessions were led by Cynthia Scherr who has been hired by the UCC to help us look back at where we have been and to write a Strategic Plan as to where we would like to go. Cynthia's method was amazing as it was definitely prayer driven rather than just writing down what we would like to see in the future. She had us break into groups and write and share our prayers. We even sang some of our prayers! She then reviewed the purpose of strategic planning, which was to write a clear mission, with a clear vision, focused priorities and measurable progress.

Our last session included a Farewell Service for Rev Dr. Charles Buck, followed by words of thanks and a report from the search committee letting us know that they hope to have an interim person in place before the end of summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kahu Akana
Bonnie Kakinami



Kurt & Becky Kekuna with Kahu and Bonnie



Ken Makuakane, Bill Haole of Kawaiaha'o Church & friends—
impromptu entertainment

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'ele at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: kucpenny@gmail.com.

Graceleanor brought in friend, **Betty Bell**, as **Betty** celebrated her 90th birthday!



Was fun having cousins, **Kelsey & Logan** in church! **Dan & Naomi** were off on

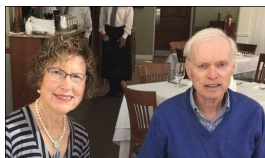


another adventure to a wedding in Napa!...you think they had some of these?<<< **Kahu** (Chair of Youth/Young Adult Comm. of the KAUCC) took UCC kids to clean **Donkey**

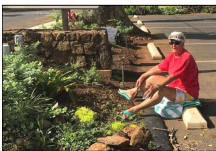
Beach in late May. They partnered with **Surfrider Foundation - Kauai Chapter**.



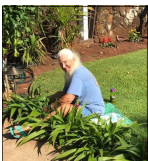
40 youth & adult volunteers picked up 1100# of marine debris, plastic water bottles, bottle caps on the beach!! **Lee & Carol**



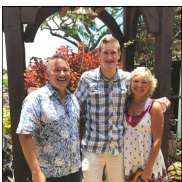
celebrating **Carol's** birthday at their favorite spot, **Blu**. **Judyth** celebrated her 80th!



Hummm, I wonder if **Carol & Judyth** would share their secrets to youth? Thanks to **Pat Chaffin** for spending



many mornings weeding the church front yard! If you have an hour or two during the week, there are lots of weeds to be plucked. **Palani's Aunty Sue Fadel** was here for a visit.



Former pastor, **Art Mampel**,



reading poetry at the *Red Onion Tavern*. **Palani** was amazing on his viola playing the theme from "Schindler's List" **Kahu's** sermon theme that Sunday: *A Gift Rising From the Chaos*.



Bonnie, Debbie, & Paul helped the Sunday School children make Father's Day gifts. The choir presented



Music Director **Kathy Dahill** beautiful tulips in much appreciation. P.S. We also appreciate all that **Chris** does for us!!! I a m S O O O O

impressed...**Debbie** did the 2017 *Haena to Hanalei* 8 mile walk!!! Thanks to all of YOU, our annual special mission donations for "Strengthen the Church" is UP 28%!!! If anyone is ever interested, you are always welcome to look at the monthly Treasurer's report and Council minutes. Just go to the office. The church youth reported on their "best ever" youth retreat in Kokee. Four nights and as many days of hiking, games, bonding and learning it is okay to trust your peers, community building, confidence building (it is OK to be who you are), being responsible campers by cleaning the Waineke cabins before vacating! They hiked the entire Alakai Swamp! Thanks

Palani and Logan for helping, too. The youth say to YOU: thanks for all the support you have shown us over the years. Celebrated our “Capital Campaign 2nd anniversary” in early June. We were honored to have **Tad & Rev. Caroline Miura** and **Rev. Dr. Charles Buck**, Hawaii Conference minister, attend. Posted many pictures of the upgrades/improvements done so far—more improvements coming; had a fabulous lunch, thanks to **Taylor Sakimae**, caterer extraordinaire, **(and helpers)!!** Had a “youthful” talent show as our church “kids” sang and danced. Songs from “**Moana**” were most popular that day. Was great having **Tom & Lynda Armbruster** visit. **Tom** reminded us that



his great-great-grandfather was the pastor at *Koloa Union* in the 1850’s, amazing history. Both **Bill Dressel** and **Chris Sweitzer** read great poems for Father’s Day. Spoke with **Fran Johnshoy**. She and **Mike** are well and



settled, but missing *Kauai & Koloa Union!* **Fran** has read our summer book “Convictions” by **Marcus Borg**. Thank you, *Koloa Union Church* friends and members for always being a church with “authentic hospitality.” And thanks to our 8 **Deacons**, who are always “on duty.” Thanks, “church ladies”, for a wonderful **Father’s Day Lunch**. Look



who I saw at the Wednesday Farmers’ Mkt!! **Kron**

hid from me in the bushes! **Steve & Yvonne Stoner** are on a super vacay: Minneapolis/ St Paul, Wisconsin, Indiana!!



Capital Campaign 2nd anniversary celebration: Rev. Dr. Charles Buck, pictures of the many upgrades & improvements, “youthful” talent show



Spring 2017 Youth Retreat, Kokee Waineke cabins



Thorn between the roses!!!



The “roses”



Kauai Association UCC bids farewell to Rev. Dr. Charles Buck, Hawaii Conference Minister



ART GALLERY UPDATE

Thank you to all of the members and friends of the church who have supported the gallery by praying, volunteering your time, bringing people by, telling others about it, and making purchases! I have thoroughly enjoyed having the gallery at the parsonage and sharing my art with more people than ever before.

In January, the congregation voted to allow me to use the parsonage as a venue to sell my art. The agreement was that a minimum of 51% of the net profit each month would go to the church building and grounds fund. At our April 23rd congregational meeting, the congregation gave me permission to pursue a zoning variance with the Kaua'i Planning Department in order to make the gallery a personal business, with the church receiving a percentage or amount each month. Getting a zoning variance is a rather lengthy and expensive process and ends with a public hearing in which neighbors and others in the community can express concerns or displeasure.

Since the congregational meeting in April, one of my neighbors expressed to me his concerns about having another business on our street. After prayerful consideration of being a good neighbor, I decided that I would rather continue the original agreement with the church to continue the gallery as a ministry of Koloa Union Church. On June 18, the Council agreed to this. As has been the case since the gallery opened in late February, the church will continue to receive 51% of the net income each month for the building and grounds fund, and 49% will remain with the gallery in order to purchase additional supplies and reimburse my expenses. As the Council talked about the high cost of maintenance, upgrades and repairs for the parsonage, the intent is that the gallery will help to cover most of those costs, and some of the costs for the church property as well.

Although I have personally not made any profit from the gallery, the pleasure of water coloring and sharing my art, as well as providing a steady income for the church, is definitely worthwhile. Once the gallery gets to the point where I can personally receive some income from the profit, I will have a conversation with the Church Council to see what that might look like and present a plan to the congregation. In the meantime, the church will remain the sole beneficiary of profit beyond what will stay in the gallery for future expenses and reimbursements.

As most of you know, my son Palani got the gallery up and running and has been the gallery manager since it opened the end of February. Sherry Hines has stepped forward to be the volunteer manager beginning August 3 (Palani's last day on the island). Most of the people who attend church have met Sherry, who recently moved to the island after retiring as a police Lieutenant in New York. Please drop by beginning in August to welcome Sherry to her new role, and let her know if you would like to volunteer for events or to sit in the gallery when she is on vacation.

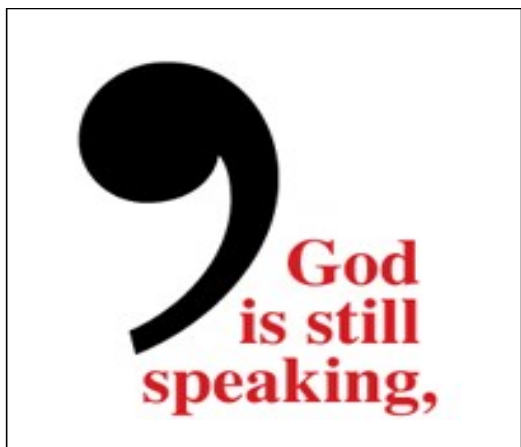
Mahalo nui!
Kahu



Koki'o 'ula
This endangered red hibiscus is endemic to only dry forests in the Nounou Mountains on Kauai.



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

Phone: (808) 742-6622
www.koloaunionchurch.org

Newsletter - July 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----------|
| A Note from Kahu Akana | 1 |
| Rock & Bowl , Koloa Plantations Days | 2 |
| Office Volunteers | 2 |
| Aloha Hour, Ushers, Lay Readers, Prayers | 2 |
| Announcements, Upcoming Events | 3 |
| 195th `Aha Pae`aina Report | 4 |
| Art Gallery Update | 5 |
| Aunty Niele | 6 |
| Aunty Niele | 7 |