



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

August 2017

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

SOMETHING TO CHEW ON FOR A WHILE

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

I want to express my appreciation to each person who showed up to our summer book group, which concluded on July 19. We gathered on Wednesday evenings for a meal and discussion of Marcus Borg's book *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*. In the book, Borg wrote about some of his heartfelt convictions regarding faith, religious experience, politics, and other matters. What I enjoyed most about the group was learning how parts of Borg's book landed on readers—sometimes in a very positive and inspirational way, and at other times in an uncomfortable way. I particularly enjoyed the compassionate and understanding responses from others in the group when someone disagreed with the author or found his thoughts and ideas a bit of a stretch from their comfort zones.

I have observed such responses at other times and places at Kōloa Union Church—particularly after sermons. On several occasions people have said things to me like, "I really enjoyed your sermon today. I don't think I agree with you on everything, but you gave me something to chew on for awhile." I am grateful for the opportunity to share with people every week my understanding of the Christian faith, interpreta-

tions of our Scriptures, and convictions of what kind of people and community God is calling us to be in the 21st century. I am also very thankful for the compassionate and understanding attitude of people who may disagree with me or see things through different lenses.

My intention and commitment is to share my understanding, interpretations and convictions through sermons, prayers, book groups and conversations, and also to listen to each of you with the same attitude which I so often observe among the people of Kōloa Union Church—that I can learn and grow in my faith, and find new things to chew on for awhile. When describing our church to others, I often tell people that the church is an accepting place where people can come from all kinds of different backgrounds and worldviews and know they will be welcome here among us. It is also a church where people appreciate having something to chew on for awhile.

Aloha nui loa!
Kahu Alan Akana



YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE**August 27, 2017**

Please join us.

Church youth will be doing the entire service. Anyone in middle or high school wanting to participate, contact Tiffany Marrotte.

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

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

August 06—Ito Rebb Shim

August 13—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey

August 20—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

August 27—Ramos Baptiste Stoner

Sept 03—Giovanni Osuga Strong

Sept 10—Odo Honjo Foley Dunas

Sept 17—Ito Rebb Shim

Sept 24—Smythe Chaffin Mc Coubrey

Oct 01—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

FREE SMOKE ALARMS INSTALLED**American Red Cross**

in your home by a Red Cross volunteer. The volunteer will also educate you on fire prevention and how to escape from home fires. You may have as little as 2 minutes to escape a burning home. With a working smoke alarm, you could cut your risk of death in a house fire by HALF.

Call 808-245-4919

(and become an invaluable volunteer)

USHERS**AUGUST**

Virginia Dunas

Doug Duvauchelle

SEPTEMBER

JoRae Baptiste

Debbie Gunning

LAYREADERS

August 06—Kaylee Alapai

August 13—Doug Duvauchelle

August 20—Graceleanor Baird

August 27—Phyllis Kunimura

September 03—Angela Dressel

September 10—Larry Chaffin

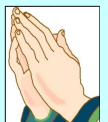
September 17—Virginia

September 24—Kei Osuga

October 01—Rosemary Smythe

October 08—Edie Moe

Our Prayers: Prayers for guidance & strength for Jack & Rowan (2 children, prayers requested by Sharon McCoubrey), Patsy (church member friend), Andre Yasis, Rochelle Lorenzo, Noelle (Christine's daughter), Becky (Cathy Evan's friend), Fay Bartels, Vernon Parongao, Carl (Steve & Yvonne's neighbor), Shellee Riggio (and her ex-husband), David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Stacie's mother, Ella Batalucco, Billy (Patsy's cousin), Jean (Joy's friend), Barbara Johnson, Lizzie Macaninch, Steven, John Kube, Vernon Fu, Jo Johannesen, Linda (Edie's sister), Daniel Tunney, Joseph Alapai, 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 who lost loved ones in the Marco Polo Condo fire in Honolulu, including the family of Melba Dilley and Britt Rellar (mother & brother of UCC pastor, Rev. Phil Reller), and the families of Dave Ellis (friend of Sam & Karen Tucci) and Jane Yoshimori.



PLANTATION-STYLE LIVING: AN AFTERNOON OF ART, STORIES AND REFRESHMENTS

Koloa Union Church hosted this event as part of the 32nd Koloa Plantation Days, a celebration of Hawaii’s sugar industry and heritage. It was held at on Monday, July 24, 4—6 pm at our Smith Memorial Parsonage. We hosted approximately 80 visitors (more than last year) who enjoyed the art, refreshments and historical tour of the parsonage.



Kahu and Phyllis spoke on plantation-style living



Music by Doug and (my cousin) Michael Shintani



Thanks to our volunteers who baked, served, were hosts and tour guides!!!

Capital Campaign Update Exciting Summer News

We are happy to announce that we have received a \$40,000 grant from the Vidinha Charitable Trust, which will allow us to begin our sanctuary expansion project this summer! We will enclose the area where the pews are located, as well as the space where welcome cards, bulletins and books are kept on the portable table on Sunday mornings. We will also remove the large moveable walls and lattice fence and gate, and add new entry doors, sliding glass doors and windows. Furthermore, we will remove the strip of carpet which runs the length of the sanctuary and fix the uneven places on the floor. We plan to complete the project in the fall. An informational flyer with all of the details will be available by the end of summer. In the meantime, please ask Kahu, Dan Giovanni, or Deacons and Council members if you have any questions.



Grove Farm tour: at the tunnel—Palani, Kahu, Aida, Penny, Jan, Karen, Edie, Chris, Tara



Waita Reservoir



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

Great having the church youth blow the pu shell and light altar candles to start Sunday services. **Dan & Naomi** went back to the Bay area to celebrate **Dan's** ??



birthday in Napa!!! Am certain it was a festive gathering of friends/family.



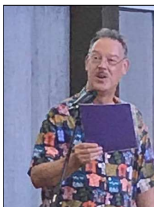
Cathy Evans has returned to her "other" home, will return to Koloa in the fall. She stays so busy while on Kauai including making this beautiful "prayer quilt" which was given to **Fay Bartels. Cathy** went on



a Guatemala mission for children. The "prayer quilt girls" **Elizabeth, Susan, Debbie, Cheryl, Bonnie, Becky** made a quilt for **Bill Dressel**, too!! We all



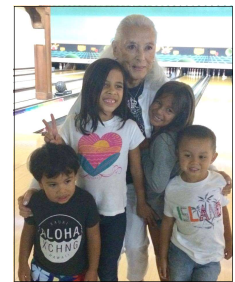
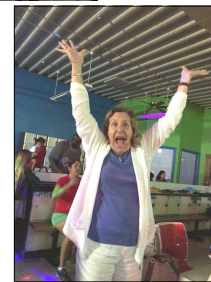
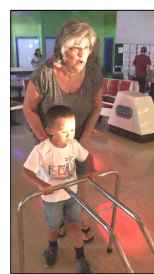
said prayers while tying the knots. **Becky** is one happy MOM!!! All 3



"kids" in one place!!! Thanks, **Chris**, for your beautiful rendition of "What A Wonderful World." We recognized the birthday of the UCC: June 1957. **Palani** was on the Big Island for an ecology conference, invited by his **Columbia** PhD professor. Alert! Alert! Check **Yone's** purse...hopefully



it is much heavier since returning from Vegas!!! Love getting *monthly handwritten notes* from assoc. members, **Dan & Joy King!!!** They celebrated **Joy's** bday in **Disneyland!** So so much fun @ *Rock &*



Bowl!! There were 33 bowlers ages 3-92 and a large cheering section! I have not rolled a ball in 50 years, didn't break anything, cannot wait to go again! **Ed &**



LeEllen Baker, grandparents of the bride! Must have been a warm day! **Kahu** visited **Chito** and **Toyo and Kathy**. Here is **Toyo** displaying what happened during his birth year:





1916!! **Paul, Joni, Syd & Caleb** were in the north west on a family vacay: saw the terra-cotta warriors at the *Seattle Pacific Science Ctr*, rock climbed up a very high wall, a week on Lake Chelan, Mariners game, etc!!



Thanks, **Debbie**, for my yummy Starbucks morning treat!!! **Kron & Foster**: keeping cool! **Toby** drew colorful fish in Sunday school. Brothers **Evan & Nolan** are in Alaska with family. **Rosemary** went to a HS reunion for **Seabury Hall-**



Maui then spent some down time in Haena! Former pastor, **David & Sally Hansen** visited friends (I think in NC) at a *Firefly Gathering-Skills for Living with Earth*. Former pastor, **Nani & Jerry Hill** are loving retirement & their move to AZ. First on their bucket list: they hiked a portion of Spain's powerful & awesome *El Camino de Santiago*!! Plus visiting family in Minnesota, a September pilgrimage to the Holy Land! I missed a fab presentation of *The Lion King, JR* by the Hawaii Children's Theater. **Ella & Skylar** were superstars!!! The **Shims** enjoying the local *bon dance*. **Ezra** at his *Moving On Up* ceremony!! They grow up to quickly, huh? **Jo** and **Kimo, Tiffany** enjoying yummy food at



brother **Mark & Tricia's** *Roots in Culture* food truck. The food is fab! If



you haven't already, you **must** try it! This pic was in the TGIFriday! "**Tiffany Ruiz Marrotte, CPSP**"!! Now officially a "Certified Parent Support Provider"—congrats! **Graceleanor** celebrated her ?? Birthday, shared some beautiful roses. She reminds us to save your used stamps. **Graceleanor** asked for travel prayers as she will do a river cruise in Europe. **Kelsey Duvauchelle** traveled to Japan and China with friends!! Thrilled **Virginia** has healed from cataract surgery. Nothing can get past her now!!! The church Council is thrilled to have **Yvonne Stoner** as our new secretary. Thanks, **Yvonne!!!!** In church on July 16, we were reminded to "*STOP, LOOK & LISTEN to GOD.*" **Doug** now has Mondays OFF!!! His mornings are playing guitar for the seniors at **Koloa Neighborhood Ctr** while they do their exercises. They are requesting songs from "their era." LOL!! Ran into **Josie** at Costco!!! A "thank you" note from **Fay Bartels**: Hope you know how much your thoughtfulness is appreciated. I thank God daily for the people in my life and the loving friends of Koloa Union Church. The surprising gift of a prayer quilt warmed my heart and I am truly blessed. I hope to find pain relief soon. Maholo nui loa, Fay." **Mt. Waialeale** is 5000+ feet high, the wettest spot on earth with average rainfall of 451 inches! **Palani** & friend, **Jeff**, hiked to its summit!!! Leaving **Waineke** at 3:30 a.m., they hiked for 16 hours! WOW!!!!





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
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Penny Osuga,
Administrative Assistant
kucpenny@gmail.com

Kathleen Dahill
Director of Music
Kathleen@WildwdStudios.com

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Newsletter - AUGUST 2017

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