



# Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

*October 2017*

## **A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA**

### **Changing Lives, Transforming the World in 2018!**

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

On Sunday mornings, we have been sharing stories about how Kōloa Union Church has changed lives and been an important part of transforming communities here on Kauaʻi and throughout the world. This past Sunday, Debbie Gunning, the Chair of our Stewardship Committee, talked about how important our church has been to her and what a difference it has meant to her personally; she also talked about the huge difference our church makes in our 5-for-5 offerings to the United Church of Christ. Kōloa Union Church has committed \$5,000 to the basic support of Our Church's Wider Mission in 2017, which comes directly out of our budget. 50% of the basic support stays within Hawai'i to support the mission of the UCC here in the islands, and 50% goes to the national church in order to support the UCC mission throughout the world.

The other 4 offerings are collected separately throughout the year. The next one will be the Neighbors in Need special mission offering, which we will collect on Sunday, November 5. The funds we collect support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the U.S. One-third of the offering goes directly to support Native American ministry and the other two-thirds support ministries of justice, including grants to churches which are creating new ways to make the world a better place.

In order to support the important work of the United Church of Christ worldwide, the Hawai'i Conference, the Kaua'i Association, and Kōloa Union Church, I invite you to prayerfully consider what you might commit to contributing to our

church's general fund in 2018. Commitment cards were recently mailed to our members and those who regularly make financial gifts to our church. Please bring your card with you to church on Sunday, October 1, for the blessing of our commitments. We will also celebrate World Communion Sunday on that day, as we remind ourselves of Christians all over the world who serve God by following Jesus, and the many ways we all make a difference by doing so! If you cannot make it on the 1st, please send your card in ahead of time so that we can include it in our blessing. If you didn't get a commitment card, we have plenty more at the church and will have them available on October 1. Your card makes a huge difference to me and the Church Council as we create a budget for the upcoming year!

Thank you for your generosity so far. We make such a difference in our community and world already. As you decide what you wish to contribute in 2018, please prayerfully consider a generous financial commitment that truly represents the gratitude you have for Kōloa Union Church and the many ways we change lives and transform the world! Our prayer for 2018 is on page 2; please pray those words as you decide your support for next year. I am looking forward to seeing how God leads us in the year ahead!

Aloha nui loa!

Kahu Alan Akana



**HURRICANE RELIEF**

The United Church of Christ has established a fund to support Harvey and Irma relief and recovery efforts. Donations may be made online by clicking [HARVEY](#) or [IRMA](#). Gifts may also be made through Koloa Union Church; please indicate "Hurricane Harvey," "Hurricane Irma," or "Hurricane Relief" (for both) on the note line; checks will be then forwarded to the Hawaii Conference for Wider Church Missions. Donation will be accepted through October.

**NEIGHBORS IN NEED  
Special Mission Offering**

The Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ churches that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Grants are awarded to churches and organization doing justice work in their communities for the Council for American Indian Ministry & for the Justice & Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects. Please give with open hearts.

**ALOHA HOUR**

- Oct 01—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- Oct 08—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- Oct 15—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- Oct 22—Odo Honjo Foley Dunas
- Oct 29—Ito Rebb Shim
- Nov 05—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey
- Nov 12— Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- Nov 19—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- Nov 26—Giovanni Strong Osuga

**OUR PRAYER for 2018**



“Changing Lives,  
Transforming the World in 2018”

O God, we at Koloa Union Church seek to know your will and want to help in whatever way possible so that lives may be changed and the world might be transformed.

Show me what I can do to share your aloha with others and how much to give to Koloa Union Church in 2018.

Amen!

**USHERS**

**OCTOBER**

Sheryl Ramos  
Kei Osuga

**NOVEMBER**

Phyllis Kunimura  
Graceleanor Baird

**LAYREADERS**

- October 01—Rosemary Smythe
- October 08—Edie Moe
- October 15—Kerry Mori
- October 22—Debbie Gunning
- October 29—Kaylee Alapai
- November 05—Doug Duvauchelle
- November 12—Graceleanor Baird
- November 19—Phyllis Kunimura
- November 26—Angela Dressel
- December 03—Larry Chaffin

**Our Prayers:** Prayers for healing and strength for Christie (Becky's sister), Ken (Bonnie's friend), Marcus Lau (Rosemary's nephew), Belinda Bartels, Bill Dressel, Phyllis Kunimura, Jack and Rowan (two children, requested by Sharon McCoubrey), Cori Swanson, Andre Yasis, Rochelle Lorenzo, Noelle (Christine's daughter), Becky (Cathy Evan's friend), Fay Bartels, Carl (Steve & Yvonne's neighbor), Shellee Riggio, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Stacie's mother, Ella Batalucco, Jean (Joy's friend), Barbara Johnson, Lizzie Macaninch, Steven, John Kube, Vernon Fu, Linda (Edie's sister), 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 of Rev. Ken Smith, Mylo Korn, Brian Dallas (Joy King's brother), Lucky Thompson (Rev. Jeannie Thompson's brother).



## **Capital Campaign News**

We expect to hear any day from our contractor when we will begin our sanctuary enlargement and enclosure project. We will send out an email to church members and friends regarding starting and ending dates. The project will cause some interruption of church activities during the week, but will not impact us on Sunday mornings for worship services, Sunday school or Aloha Hour.

## **Fall Stewardship Plans**

### **Commitment Sunday/World Communion Sunday**

“Aloha: The Greatest Commandment”

“Changing Lives, Transforming the World in 2018”

“Aloha” is not just what we do; it is part of our identity as a church. By our very nature, we share love and hospitality with others; and by doing so, we change lives (including our own!) and transform the world around us. Beginning September 10, we will spend time in our worship services for four weeks in a row celebrating the ways we share aloha with others and exploring new ways to reach out to those around us. We will also each prayerfully consider what our own commitments will be to our outreach and mission in the coming year, culminating on October 1 (World Communion Sunday) when we bless our financial commitments to the church for 2018. May we all participate in prayerfully imagining what we might do for others and in committing to a bold vision for the coming year! Please bring your completed 2018 commitment card on **Sunday, October 1**, when we bless our commitments for the coming year. Each year in the fall we ask our members and friends to let us know what they plan to give to the general fund during the following year. This is a great help to our Finance Committee and Church Council in planning the upcoming budget, which is then presented to the congregation in January each year. We will also celebrate World Communion Sunday on the 1st!



**Fall Work Days** *As we look forward to hosting the Kaua'i Association `Aha Mokupuni in early November, we want our church buildings and grounds to be in top shape for all our visitors to enjoy! Please come on October 7 and October 28 at 8 a.m. to do general cleaning of the building interior and weeding and yard work. We need lots of help. Bring your work gloves, rags and clippers and lots of energy. Looking for lava rocks and blue rocks for edging the garden plots. We will pick up the rocks.*



### **KAUCC Children and Youth Event: October 22**

Each year, each of the churches of the Kaua'i Association volunteer to host the youth in some kind of activity. On Sunday, October 22, at 4 p.m., Kōloa Union Church will host the children, youth and their families for a potluck gathering in Moore Hall. Attendees will play games, sing songs, plan upcoming activities for the year, eat dinner and prepare for their role at the upcoming `Aha Mokupuni. Please let Kahu know if you would like to help with setup, being a parking attendant, games, donating prizes, music, registration table or cleanup.

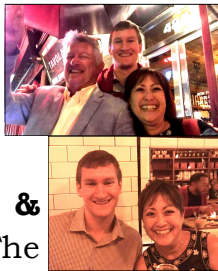
More on page 5...

# 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](mailto:kucpenny@gmail.com).*

It's been a busy summer for all! **Elizabeth Mares** spent fun times in San Francisco with friends and family! **Graceleanor** went to Oregon and a Rhine cruise! **Kahu** spent time in the Bay area with friends and family, then on to the Big Apple. Got **Palani** settled as he works on his ecology PhD at **Columbia!** **Kahu & Palani** went to 4 (!!)



Broadway shows, including the ever popular "Hamilton" where they ran into **Dan & Naomi!** Small world, eh?? The church youth recently conducted the entire Sunday Service. They focused on thoughts from **Nelson Mandela,**



their Kokee camp, appreciation, how one bad decision can change your



entire life, gratitude. They were awesome! Thanks: **Tiffany,**

**Sheri, Uncle Doug, Kahu!** Congratulations to **Karen Johnson!** She is a great grandma!

"Pretty trippy" she says! Congratulations to those who participated in the 9th annual Kauai Marathon in one way or another:



**Debbie, Virginia. Joy King** lunching in Chandler, Az. at Even Stevens. Former pastor, **John Lunn,** was on



island and found a little time to have dinner with us. Always great catching up, he is loving his Molokai life.

Thanks to **Rev. Sarah Jones** (Wilcox chaplain) for filling our pulpit, we enjoyed having her and family, **Dan, Irene, Maggie, Jackson.**



Congratulations to **Yone & Diki**—great grandparents again! What a joy!! Thanks to **Doug, Becky**



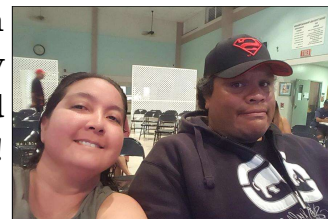
and **Rose** for our "gift of music" and hula! We are so blessed to be surrounded by such talent and sharing. Thanks



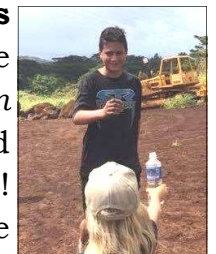
to **Karen** and **Debbie** for their "gift of story". **Karen** reminds us to keep love in our hearts. Here is a very tall **Krayson** playing/marching in the Koloa Parade! **Kimo & Tiffany** had a "date night" going to see **Augie T!** Am certain



they laughed a LOT!!



Check out **Miss Raegan** from the *Ultimate Hawaiian Trail/Mud Run!!!* And **Evan, Greg, Chase!!!**



Oh what fun to have an excuse to play in mud!!!!

And here is **Miss Ella** with *Moana*. Can you find **Rosemary**? She is finding some shade at *Limahuli Gardens*. Went to visit **Fay** and **Chito**. They are doing well, always enjoy visitors. **Nishidas** were not available. **Naomi** (and **Dan**) at the world famous **Mai Tai Bar** in Waikiki. Safe travels to our fabulous Director of Music, **Kathy Dahill**, as she travels to Georgia to visit her



best friend. Congratulations, **Norma Doctor Sparks**, just elected to the *University of Hawaii Board of Regents*. Safe travels to **Larry & Pat Chaffin** as they cruise the west coast! Honolulu beware: **Bonnie & Debbie** are going SHOPPING!!! Economy on Oahu has just improved!!! Our **Hawaii Conference UCC** has a publication "**The Friend**". It is "the oldest newspaper west of the Rocky Mountains" founded in 1843. In the latest issue you will find **Kahu's** picture in a group of others representing Hawaii churches who have the distinction of donating to the "5 for 5" special mission offerings!! High five to all of you and your generosity!!!



**ʻAha Mokupuni: November 12**

Kōloa Union Church will be hosting all of the churches of the Kauaʻi Association for the Fall ʻAha Mokupuni. The event will begin at 3 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. It will include presentations and conversations, worship and dinner, and special activities for children and youth! It will be an exciting time for us to show off all of the new improvements of our capital campaign! We will need "all hands on deck" to set up, greet, help with parking, help with the children and youth program, serve and clean up on that day. A signup sheet will be available throughout October, and we are asking everyone to sign up to do at least one thing.

**Choir Rehearsals** are on Thursdays, 7 pm. in the sanctuary. Please let Kathleen Dahill know if you are interested in joining the choir. New singers are always welcome. Let Kathleen know you or a friend would like to sing a song or play a musical instrument during our worship services. Solos, duets, trios, quartets and ensembles are welcome! NO rehearsals on September 21 and September 28.



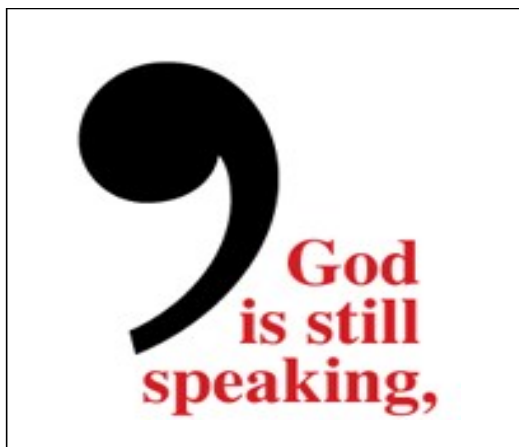
**500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

On Sunday, October 29, we will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. The official date of the beginning of the Reformation was October 31, 1517, when an Augustinian monk and Chair of Theology at the University of Wittenberg in Germany, by the name of Martin Luther, wrote a letter to his bishop. That letter changed Europe and eventually the Christian Church throughout the world forever. Come on the 29<sup>th</sup> and hear the story of the remarkable changes Martin Luther began when he submitted that letter.

In honor of the Reformation, which began in Germany, we will celebrate during Aloha Hour with a traditional German luncheon.



**KOLOA UNION CHURCH**  
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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**  
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**Penny Osuga,**  
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