



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

January 2018

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

GOOD NEWS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

As 2017 comes to a close and the new year begins, there is a lot of good news! We had another good year of generous donations to our general fund, Our Churches Wider Mission, and local outreach in the community. We also have had a tremendously successful year with our capital campaign projects, including our irrigation system, outdoor lighting, and the new tinting and special designs on the sanctuary windows. We also began our sanctuary expansion project! In the first few weeks of January, our new foyer will be done, including two new beautiful koa entry doors (in memory of Tony and Phyllis Kunimura), a Deacon's cabinet and countertop, an area for nametags, and new sliding doors. Once all of this is done, the area will be painted, the floor will be textured and stained, and we will add some lighting. Our facilities and grounds are looking more fantastic and all of our projects were paid for with cash on hand! We have also begun our plans for making a nice women's restroom and 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 \$2,000 to our youth funds (part of the initial capital campaign plans). Thanks so much to everyone who has given so generously, and another extra-special thanks to Dan Giovanni, our project manager who keeps things moving along!

Another highlight of the year for me has been the continued 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 single mothers and 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!

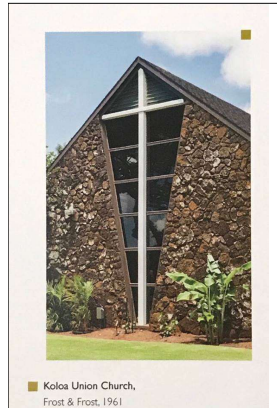
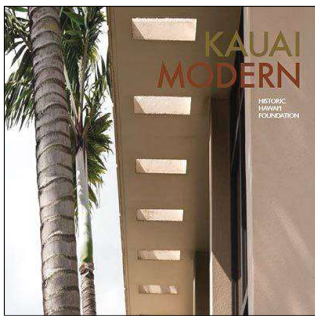
A final highlight for me has been the increased attendance and involvement of young families to our church. The children's Christmas program this year was one of the best I've ever seen in over 30 years of ministry in churches! I am especially grateful for Tiffany Marrotte and all of the adults and teenagers who volunteer with our children. I am also grateful for all of our members who welcome the children, teenagers and their families into the life of our church. It is so important that we have a place for young people to come, hear and learn about God's love which is for all people!

Thank you to everyone for making 2017 such a wonderful year. I am eager to see the good things that God has in store for us in the year to come, and especially glad that I get to spend it with all of you!



HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

The Historic Hawaii Foundation has published a booklet: *Kauai Modern*. This booklet showcases a small but significant portion of the built environment from the mid-20th century on the island of Kauai. This Modern (1933-1979) period was a time of notable transformation in Hawaii: changing from a territory to the 50th state, a rural plantation society to an urban one, agricultural economy to one dominated by tourism. We were excited to find our picture on page 24 under "Sacred".



ALOHA HOUR

Jan 07—Giovanni Strong Osga
 Jan 14—Odo Honjo Foley Dunas
 Jan 21—Ito Rebb Shim
 Jan 28—Smythe Chaffin McCoubrey
 Feb 04—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
 Feb 11—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
 Feb 18—Giovanni Strong Osga
 Feb 25—Odo Honjo Foley Dunas
 Mar 04—Ito Rebb Shim

SALVATION ARMY LUNCH

We are looking for volunteers to serve lunch at the Hanapepe Salvation Army on January 31. Kolola Union signed up for every fifth

Wednesday throughout the year.

Please let Judyth know if you can help. Meet at the church, 9:30 a.m.



RUMMAGE SALE

Time to do some "winter cleaning" in preparation for our annual spring RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE!

We appreciate all donations! Proceeds will go to our "youth fund" and "food ministry."

USHERS

JANUARY

JoRae Baptiste
 Debbie Gunning

FEBRUARY

Sheryl Ramos
 Kei Osga

LAYREADERS

January 07—Kerry Mori
 January 14—Debbie Gunning
 January 21—Kaylee Alapai
 January 28—Doug Duvauchelle
 February 04—Graceleanor Baird
 February 11—Jean Odo
 February 18—Angela Dressel
 February 25—Larry Chaffin
 March 04—Virginia Dunas
 March 11—Kei Osga

Our Prayers:

Prayers for healing and strength for Scott Coffey, Suzanne Pearson, Martha (Heather's mom) Erin Garlie, John Pekoe, Kekoa, Bette MacLeod, Ken Arrick, Belinda Bartels, Rowan (requested by Sharon McCoubrey), Cori Swanson, Rochelle Lorenzo, Becky (Cathy Evan's friend), Shellee Riggio, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Barbara Johnson, Lizzie Macaninch, Steven, Vernon Fu, 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 Phyllis Kunimura, Florentina Sandomiano, Monroe Richman, Eldean Scott and Carl (Steve & Yvonne's neighbor).



A LEI OF ALOHA, AS WE SAY GOODBYE.....A TRIBUTE



A woman of distinction and grace, best described Phyllis Kunimura. No matter how you were acquainted with Phyllis, a relative, or friend or colleague, Phyllis as an educator, a speaker, an honorary member of a society or organization, the Mayor's wife, a writer, a deacon, an artist, a friend, she became an inspiration to all. However, there is another quality of Phyllis we members of Koloa Union Church are fully aware of, and that is the spiritual reflection she exhibited. One of her last wishes was to have the new koa doors to the church entrance donated in remembrance of both her and her late husband, Tony Kunimura. If you close your eyes, you can still see Phyllis standing by the doorway, and in her friendly demeanor, greet you with her efficacious smile and warm "Welcome or good morning." Phyllis also had her special seating area and whenever she was the lay reader, she carried on like a pro teacher because you knew exactly what was expected in response!

We had a habit of seeking advice from Phyllis regarding church agendas—even if you disagreed, you would side with her when you saw her jaw tighten, which was her signal of quietly saying "Put on your thinking cap before you make your decision." That was in respect of the great love she had for the church and the admiration of the people who worship here.

Phyllis was a believer when she expressed "You never walk alone," if you keep your faith, hope, love and peace in your hearts and thoughts.....words from our Lord.

We will miss you, dear Phyllis, as you leave us with your memories that showed you were one of our human foundations who gave us strength in the sanctuary and surroundings of the Koloa Union Church.

We bid you a fond farewell and ALOHA to a beautiful lady.



(Thank you, Jeanie Odo, for this touching tribute)

Phyllis' Celebration of Life, January 20, 2018, at Koloa Union Church.
Visitation 10:00 a.m. Service 11:00 a.m. Luncheon to follow.

The Church Bells 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.

Lectio Divina

January 17, Wednesday

Join us again in January for a time to quietly reflect on the Scriptures. We will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. for *Lectio Divina* at the Smith Memorial Parsonage (3281 Waikomo Road). In Christianly, *Lectio Divina* is a traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's Word. Join Angela Dressel, Karen Johnson, Kahu and others for a time to reflect, meditate and pray as we begin the new year.

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!

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.

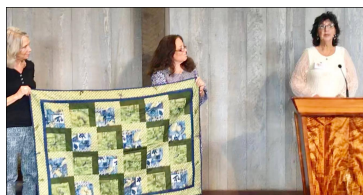
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!! High five to **Rosemary's** granddaughter, **Reign Palama**. She was nominated by a teacher for being a fearless and kind leader who stands up for others, works to include everyone, and makes a difference through their actions. **Reign**, in the 8th grade, was one of 8 students who won \$1000 (!!!) for the Special Olympics. Atta girl!!! **Clyde & Sarah Shiraki**, former members, recently



returned from fabulous trip to Japan. Thanks to our KUC decorating elves **Skylar, Rory, Sydney, Caleb** for decorating the tree in the sanctuary! Looks



amazing!!! Congrats to **Miss Ella**—Student of the Month for being a self directed learner!!! **Kahu & Sherry Hines** (volunteer



extraordinaire!!). **Angela, Elizabeth, Bonnie** showing their newest "prayer quilt" heading to **First Baptist Church** in Sutherland Springs, Texas to help their healing after the horrific mass shooting. Wonderful having **Owen's mom, Mary,**



visiting all the way from Alaska for Thanksgiving. **Toby** certainly looks happy having GMA here! **Kahu** lunched with **Aunty**



Chito, Toyo & Kathy Nishida.

Lee & Carol Bowen went on an amazing 3-week trip to Thailand and Cambodia!! **Karen & Becky** were part of the *Kauai Chorale Christmas Concert* held at **St.**



Michael's. Thanks our talented decorators: **Joey Rebb** for our fabulous wreath, **Rosemary** for the Advent wreath and 30" ti leaf lei hanging on the cross. Thanks to **Heather Poole & Jacob Lester** for the special music we enjoyed!!! *The Bridge* had a successful fundraiser gala on Dec. 3. The **Chaffins** were the highest bidders for this special piece of art, here with the artist!!! We church oldtimers will



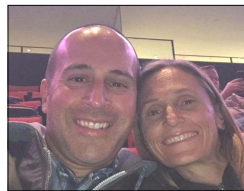
remember former members, **Sensuke and Chiyo Ueunten**. **Chiyo** was known for her chiffon sunshine cake. She always make



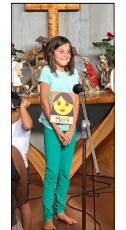
one for church. When she wasn't able to attend church, she dropped one off at the **Nishida's** and they brought the cake to church. One

Sunday we were THRILLED to have **Chiyo's** sunshine cake, baked that morning by son, **David!** The legacy lives on! **Skylar** doing "creative bell-ringing" as she hurriedly carried out a chair to stand on! How much fun do you think

Greg & Jenni had at this **Billy Joel** concert? Yep—LOTS!!!! I wonder how cold it was as **Dan & Naomi & friends** spent the weekend at the *Kilauea Military Camp* on the Big Island?? WOW—our **talented choir** "rocked it" with "O Come



Emmanuel." Per MSN, residents of Hawaii 'are the healthiest in the nation' for the 5th year in a row! High five, y'all! Keep walking!!! I learned that **Koloe Elementary School** is the oldest on Kauai, started in 1877. The school just celebrated 140 years of "educating youth and creating community leaders!!" Had a fun annual Christmas party at the parsonage with lots of food and singing.



Next: an exceptional youth Christmas program. They conducted the entire Sunday service topped off with "An Emoji Christmas Story" play. Had our 1st **Lectio Divina** at the parsonage.

In Christianity, it is a traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. Thanks to **Karen Johnson, Angela Dressel, Kahu**. Many friends and members traveling: **Larry** to Carlsbad, **Pat** to Costa Rica to meet her brand new great-grand daughter, **Dan & Naomi** to HNL, soon on to NY (opps, flights CX due to winter storms!), **Becky** to Calif, **Krayson's and Asher's** being in the *Kauai All Island Band*, marching in the Holiday Bowl Game (went to California with families), **Palani** heading home from NY, the **Ito** ohana sledding and skiing in WA!!! Bumped into my shopping

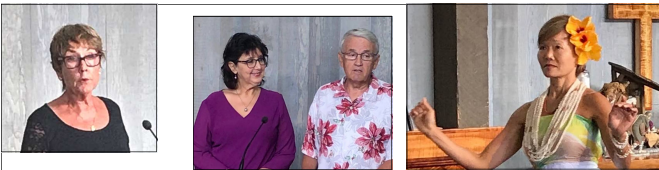


Check out these 2 handsome dudes!!



buddy, **Judy Gulde**, at Macy's! Was to nice seeing members **Mike & Fran Johnshoy** in church as they were





visiting from MN. Thanks to our Advent Candle lighters, who shared their art of music (**Shim ohana & Kathy**), hula (**Rose Tatiana**), meditation (**Christine**), quilting (**Bill & Angela Dressel**). Thank you to our **KUC** menehune (initials **R.S.**) who undecorated our Christmas tree AND put everything away! **Karen Johnson** is off to Oahu to participate in a *Palolo Zen Retreat*. Check out this picture of **Aunty Jo**.....no words needed!!! LOL. More church elves



who put together the candles/wind protectors for our Christmas Eve service... **Graceleanor, Betty, Judyth**. Look who was home! Our church kid, all grown up.. **Gabby!!**



GMA Becky, Kairi and Krayson



Graceleanor Ohana



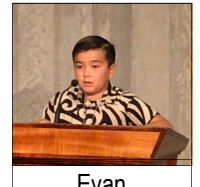
Putting together 10 Christmas food boxes



Virginia & Cammie



Odo Ohana got the "balcony seats"



Evan



Krayson



What activity for cousins on vacation? KAUAI ESCAPE ROOM & get out in 33 minutes!!!



"Kanakā Wai Wai"
"Walk Through Paradise"

Such a colorful time of the year. Thank you, **Francisca Padua**, for the gift of home-made manju for EVERYONE!!! On the last Sunday of 2017, December 31st, we shared our 2017 blessings and hopes for 2018: family, new jobs, finding Koloa Union Church, health, meeting new friends, transformations for the better, weight loss, more love and kindness and gratitude & the generosity of Koloa Union.....Amen.



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KOLOA UNION CHURCH

SUNDAY EVENTS

10:30 a.m. Sunday School and
Worship Service

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