



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

NOVEMBER 2018

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

“A New Vision, A New Journey”

At our congregational meeting on October 21, church members unanimously agreed upon a new 3-year vision for our church (see below), and also to begin the process to become an official “Open and Affirming” (ONA) congregation of the United Church of Christ. The Vision Statement began at our Leaders Retreat over the summer when participants brainstormed ideas of what God might be calling us to do and be in the next few years. We then prayerfully chose six items (which are reflected in the new Vision Statement) and then asked the Congregation to consider anything that might be missing or needed further discussion.

Beginning the process of becoming an ONA congregation received the most votes at our Leaders Retreat after a discussion on how we might be as welcoming as possible to all people. To be an ONA congregation means that we officially and publicly state that *all* people are welcome to worship and serve among us and to fully participate in the life of our church, and that we advocate for the inclusion and equality of everyone. At our congregational meeting, we approved the following members of the ONA Core Team to lead the congregation through the process: Michael Horning (chair), Sheri Fu, Tiffany Marrotte, Penny Osuga, Becky Sakimae, and me. The Core Team

welcomes additional members (in case anyone else is interested) and is currently in touch with the United Church of Christ national office to help guide us through the process. You will be hearing more from the Core Team this fall to learn more about how every member and friend of the church can be involved in the process. Please plan to participate, as the process is most successful with the greatest participation.

I am reminded once again of the honor it is to be your Kahu. I feel truly blessed to be part of such a loving and caring congregation that welcomes and includes everyone. I look forward to working among you as our vision unfolds and we discover together where it is that God is leading us next to share aloha with everyone.

Aloha nui loa!
Kahu Alan Akana



WE WELCOME EVERYONE!

A Successful Gala!

On October 14, Alan Akana Gallery hosted a musical fundraising gala. Rose Tatiana Warken Ceballos, with help from other volunteers, catered the refreshments; she also danced hula, along with others, throughout the afternoon. Debbie Gunning once again provided plantation iced tea. Doug Duvauchelle organized the musicians, which included Steve Sparks, Evan Strong, Jack Odo, and others. Cathy Evans and Christine Kube were greeters. Many others helped, brought friends, bought art, and joined in on the festivities. The gallery showed brand new items, including t-shirts, 2019 calendars, and jumbo postcards of Kahu's photographs of native flowers. The proceeds from the gala pay for maintenance, improvements and repairs of the Smith Memorial Parsonage



ALOHA HOUR

November 11—Ito Rebb Shim
 November 18—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
 November 25—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
 December 02—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
 December 09—Giovanni Osuga Strong
 December 16—Odo Honjo Dunas
 December 23—Ito Rebb Shim
 December 30—Smythe Foley McCoubrey

Prayers for comfort and strength for victims of natural disasters; prayers of comfort and healing for Karen Johnson, Kai Johnson, Betty Kataoka, Rick, Danny Finnigan, Casey Moody, Kitty Tyler, Judyth Foley, Charlotte, Suellen Nesbit, Jane, Mark Schory, Skip Hance, Jim Semph, Kilane, Sherri Mudd, Judy Hunt, Galen Kaohi, Steve Sparks, Sandy Ramsay, Mahina Anguay, Bobbie Bulatao-Franklin, Van Pribilovics, Scott Coffey, John Pekoe, Rowan, Cori Swanson, Rochelle Lorenzo, Shellee Riggio, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Barbara Johnson, Steven, Vernon Fu, Joseph Alapai, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Ted Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort and peace for the families of Bob Hammerquist, Paul Parongao; prayers of peace and comfort for Shyrl's daughter Margo, Alison Koepfgen, Emiko Akana and Miyeko Yamane.



Commitment Sunday Celebration & Talent Show

"With gratitude, welcoming all and sharing our blessings" was the theme for our Commitment Sunday. Check out the cake & with balloons, a youth play. Thanks to our Stewardship Committee for putting together such a fun and successful event. Thanks to ALL OF YOU for turning in your generous commitment cards. We now can start work on our 2019 budget.



USHERS

NOVEMBER

Christine Kube
 Graceleanor Baird

DECEMBER

Virginia Dunas
 Doug Duvauchalle

LAYREADERS

November 11—Virginia Dunas
 November 18—Kei Osuga
 November 25—Rosemary Smythe
 December 02—Edie Moe
 December 09—Kerry Mori
 December 16—Debbie Gunning
 December 23—Kaylee Alapai
 December 30—Graceleanor Baird
 January 06—Kei Osuga
 January 13—Michael Horning

Vision Statement

In September 2021, Kōloa Union Church is an Open & Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ, and people in our community know that truly all individuals are welcome here without judgment or condemnation. The celebration and love of our diversity unites us.

Our beautiful sanctuary is filled on Sundays with people of all ages and backgrounds. We are overflowing into the picnic table area outside. Moore Hall is a very attractive and inviting space.

We have created an attractive, peaceful, safe and useful space on the west end of our property. A large covering allows people to comfortably eat, play, attend live performances and hear everything happening in the sanctuary. The area is beautifully landscaped and has a nice “outdoor” feel. There is plenty of storage for tables, chairs and items for various groups. There is a safe area where the children play and two nicely appointed restrooms.

We have a thriving music and arts ministry with our choir and small group ensembles of all ages performing traditional, contemporary and Hawaiian music, and dancers and other artists who regularly participate in worship services.

Our members and guests give so generously and joyfully to the church that we no longer depend on borrowing from our permanent funds in order to cover our normal expenses.

We are known throughout the island for our mission, vision, sense of welcome, ministry to youth and those who are lacking good health and basic resources. A public relations person keeps us in the spotlight.

Alan Akana Gallery HOLIDAY SALE

Sunday, November 25, 1 - 5 p.m.

3281 Waikomo Road

The parsonage will be decorated for the holidays!

Holiday refreshments will be served!

Everything will be at least 20% off!

A perfect time to do your holiday shopping!



Lectio Divina, Wednesday, November 14 at 7 p.m.

Join us at the Parsonage for a time to quietly reflect on the Scriptures. We will meet for Lectio Divina at the Smith Memorial Parsonage (3281 Waikomo Road). In Christianity, 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.

Church Breakfast, Tuesday, November 27, 7:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited, bring a friend. Please contact Michael Horning or Penny Osuga if you plan to attend.

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.

Thanks to **Clyde & Pam Klaumann** for the BOX of used (some not used) stamps! Thanks to **Graceleanor** for sharing her "Grandparents Day" calla lilies. Thank you, **Shellee**, for sharing her voice and dance on gratitude. Our talented Music Director, **Kathleen Dahill**, had a fabulous Concert "Lifesongs" for **Kauai Flood Relief**. **She & Chris** flew to Pennsylvania to visit family. Spoke with former pastor, **Rev.**



John Lunn on Molokai as Hurricane Olivia was starting to wreak havoc there. He was safe & dry, sends his *aloha* to all. Church friend, **Tom Armbruster**, doesn't sit still very long: he was guest lecturer at **San Marino High** on AP Computer Science, he and **Lynda** volunteered at Newport Beach emergency preparedness exposition in the 'fire watch booth'. They also were in NY, visited with cousin (and our church friend) **Kendall Watts**. **Amber Strong's** been busy with girlfriends: dinner at the beautiful Beach House, a hike



down to Wailua Falls. **Cathy Evans** participated in a "bi-national yoga" event near the **Tijuana** border at **Friendship Park**. As their group of 30 did their yoga moves on the US side, a group on the Mexico side did similar poses. Very cool. Member **Joy King** went on a "girl's trip" to the Lake Tahoe area with cousins! Thank you, **Yone**, for being our "official teller"—every Sunday she collects the generous tithes/

offerings, counts and categorizes. Thanks, **Peter**, for sharing your gratitude stories. Thanks, **Missy**, for the beautiful flowers every Sunday. Going through old photos: my favorite twins!! **JoAnne & Carole!** Happy to have **Bill & Cheryl Bernhard** visiting from South Dakota! **Debbie & son, Sean**, spent time in Ireland, drinking beer and kissing the blarney stone, not necessarily in that order. They stayed in a castle, visited Scotland, London and California.



Becky and **Garrett** spent a week in Australia! Walked more than 10 (!!!) miles one day. Here they are at the "12 Apostles", a collection of limestone stacks. **Ultimate Hawaiian Trail Run—the Batalucco ohana!** Former pastor, **David & Sally Hansen**—in France with dtr **Elizabeth** & family. Friday night football for **Tiffany, Jo, Kimo**. On a recent visit to **Kiawe Roots**, ran into **Bob & Judy Gulde** (again) **Bonnie** and **Jenny** (again). Can we be "restaurant flies" instead of "bar flies"? Church friend, **Joanne McDowall** was also there with her family celebrating her ??? birthday. **Koloa Union** currently, proudly offers our



Moore Hall space to AA groups 6 nights a week. On the 7th night **Doug Duvauchelle** teaches Latin line dancing as fun exercise. **Lee/Carol Bowen** spent 2 weeks in Scotland. They recently celebrated their 55th anniversary!! **Sam/Karen Tucci** went to Germany,



Austria, Hungary on a Viking Cruise!

Steve & Yvonne



Stoner were in the *Kauai Mid-week-Friends of Kapaa Public Library*. **Bonnie's** hula debut at **Kauai Mokihana Festival!!** And her cheering section: **Shanaa Dee, Sharon, Debbie, Cathy, Bette,**



Yvonne, Steve, Becky!! Bonnie has a new granddaughter! Former

member, **Hoshi Sugawara**, celebrated her 95th birthday! She spends her time reading books, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*!! **Dan & Naomi** spent some time in NY with family. **Kei & I** travelled to Northern California, Texas, Japan (again). Visited with family, friends, our

3 grandsons, celebrated our 50th anniversary and my ?? birthday. Checked off items from my "bucket list"—Miyajima torii gate, world's largest bronze Buddha, Hiroshima Peace Park and Sadako's Memorial with thousands of paper cranes. **Becky** spent time in Oregon with family and friends. **JoRae** was in Indianapolis for a work conference. **Peter & Piper** in Vancouver, WA. **Kahu** met up with high school friends while in the Bay area at a **PSR** meeting. **Syd & Caleb** ran in the Ohana Fitfest! **Caleb** came in 3rd



in his division. **Rosemary's** been a busy girl: snorkeling (& SUP) on Oahu and Waiohai Bay, pickle ball, lunch with sisters @ Waiahole Poi Factory, hiking Wailua Falls. She has lots of energy!



Virginia celebrated her birthday in Santa Cruz!! So happy having **Judyth** back from CA after surgery. She looks

awesome. **Edie** is also doing well after a medical visit to SoCal. Thrilled to have **Don & Sharon Mahaffey** as our newest KUC members!



Evan was entertaining the Sunday school kids. Thanks, **Bonnie & Rosemary**, as they finish wrapping "Operation Christmas Child" shoeboxes—part of the **Samaritan's Purse** ministry. **Paul Ito** participated in the "Real Men Wear Pink" campaign - men fighting against breast cancer.



Kahu and **Palani's** east coast travels: visited church friends, **Ken McMillan & Carol Langford, Kendall Watts & Bob, Niagara Falls** with **Kahu's** sis, **Allison**, celebrated **Kahu's** bday, attended the Parliament of Worlds Religions (**Cathy Evans** also attended). Thanks, **Tiffany**, for an amazing Sunday service, great message!!! Sermon title "We Are Blind." **Tiff**



selected the hymns, scriptures, call to worship! **Doug & Jeanette** spent a relaxing week on Maui. **Spencer Duvauchelle** is hard at work in an EMT program...looks so handsome in his uniform! Lots going on here...more next month





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NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



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

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KOLOA UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER

November 2018

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