



# Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

FEBRUARY 2019

## **A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA**

### *Sabbatical Leave*

Most of our members and friends have heard by now that I will be taking a 3-month sabbatical in Europe this spring. I will leave Kaua`i on Monday, March 4, and return to the office on Tuesday, June 4. According to the Call Agreement when I was hired to begin serving as Kahu on February 16, 2014, “Our church will provide you with a sabbatical leave of three months after five years of full-time ministry.” A sabbatical is a time for both church and kahu “to reflect on our mutual ministry in Christ and how we can live more fully into our call as Christ’s church.” It is appropriate during a sabbatical for the pastor to focus on an area of learning and discovery; and my theme will be “beauty, art and spirituality.”

I will be spending most of my time in southern France and taking side trips to Paris, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Switzerland, visiting museums, churches, cathedrals, outdoor places of beauty and sacred spaces. I also plan to do some writing and painting.

I am very excited to be doing a home and auto exchange with my friends Christian and Paule Riso, who own a beautiful home outside of Bordeaux in southern France. Many of you know them from Christian Riso Fine Art and Framing, next door to Sueoka Market in Koloa. Christian has framed nearly all of the art in my gallery. Christian and Paule will be arriving in Koloa about a week after I leave, staying in the parsonage and driving my car during until they

head back to France in early June. The art gallery will remain open in the living and dining rooms of the parsonage, under the management of Penny Jessup.

When I return, I will share with the congregation about my experiences and insights. I plan to do so when I return to church on Sunday, June 9, which is Pentecost Sunday, and also plan to write an article in the July newsletter. I am confident that I will have many stories to tell when I return!

I will be having an open house “bon voyage party” on Sunday, March 3, at the Smith Memorial Parsonage from 1 to 5 p.m. Please drop by any time during the afternoon to visit if you have time to visit with me and Penny. It will be a casual affair with cake, coffee and iced tea. I look forward to celebrating more about my upcoming sabbatical with everyone during church and at the party!

Aloha nui!  
Kahu Alan Akana



### PARKING REQUESTS



As our attendance on Sunday mornings continues to grow, we have found that we are at "overflow capacity" by 10:30 a.m. Our Church Council has been anticipating and discussing this issue for several months. The Council wants to make sure that our visitors who attend (especially first-time visitors) are able to park on the church property; otherwise, they may not attend nor even give our church a chance. The Council also wants to make sure we have parking available for our elderly and those with mobility issues. We also know that there are individuals who carry things for worship, Sunday school and Aloha Hour. For all others who are able, the Council makes the following requests:

1. Walk from home if you live in the neighborhood;
2. Park at Koloa School/Koloa Library. We have their permission to use their parking area on Sundays;
3. Park on Waikomo Road between Poipu Road and the Smith Memorial Parsonage;
4. Carpool if there is more than one person attending from your household or even with a neighbor.

If you are running late and need to "double park" in order to attend on time, **please move your car immediately** after the worship service for those you may be blocking. *Mahalo.*

### ALOHA HOUR

- Feb 03—Ito Rebb Shim
- Feb 10—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
- Feb 17—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- Feb 24—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- March 03—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- March 10—Odo Honjo Dunas
- March 17—Ito Rebb Shim
- March 24—Smythe Foley McCoubrey

### FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, February 15, 6:00 p.m.

Movie TBA

Bring your lawn chairs, jackets and sleeping bags!!! Let Penny know if you can help with bringing popcorn, hotdogs, buns, drinks.



### USHERS

#### FEBRUARY

- Kei Osuga
- Rosemary Smythe

#### MARCH

- Christine Kube
- Graceleanor Baird

### LAYREADERS

- February 03—Suzanne Pearson
- February 10—Jean Odo
- February 17—Virginia
- February 24—Rosemary Smythe
- March 03—Karen Johnson
- March 10—Edie Moe
- March 17—Kerry Mori
- March 24—Debbie Gunning
- March 31—Kaylee Alapai
- April 07—Graceleanor Baird

Prayers for comfort and strength for victims of natural disasters; prayers of comfort and healing for Dominador Padua, Kimo Palama, Martha, George, Som, Edward Kalahiki, Tara Foley, Val, Larry Chaffin, Gary Struwe, Lizzie Macaninch, Betty Bell, Karen Johnson, Kai Johnson, Rick, Danny Finnigan, Casey Moody, Kitty Tyler, Judyth Foley, Charlotte, Suellen Nesbit, Jane, Mark Schory, Skip Hance, Kilane, Judy Hunt, Galen Kaohi, Steve Sparks, Mahina Anguay, Bobbie Bulatao-Franklin, Van Pribilovics, Scott Coffey, John Pekoe, Rowan, Cori Swanson, Rochelle Lorenzo, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Barbara Johnson, Steven, Vernon Fu, Joseph Alapai, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Ted & Tamiko Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort and peace for the families of Virginia Harman, Dave Akre, Takeshi Nakato, Richard Stoddard, Bob Hammerquist; prayers of peace and comfort for Shyrl's daughter Margo and Miyeko Yamane.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Tuesday, February 5, 12, 19, 2019, 7:30 a.m.

Join the men of the church and their friends as they continue this winter tradition. They meet each Tuesday at Kalapaki Joe's Poipu to catch up with returning snow bird friends. *Everyone* (men & women) is invited on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, February 26.

## **BIBLE STUDIES**

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Kahu will offer two identical **Bible studies** for people who would like to read passages in the Bible and learn about how they are interpreted; we will read biblical texts that encourage welcoming and accepting people who are different, as well as texts that are often used to condemn people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and those who question sexual and gender norms. There will be time for questions and conversation. Please sign up on the church bulletin board for **today**, after Aloha Hour in Kahu's office OR Wednesday, **February 6**, at 7 p.m. at the parsonage.

## **LADIES' ENSEMBLE**

Saturday, February 9, noon

The ladies are asked to meet at the church on Saturday, February 9 at noon for practice. You will be featured on Sunday, February 10, during Ka Mele Makana.

## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

*Maika`i Hana Hou!*

The crew continues construction on the "soon to be" brand new ladies' restroom, which is scheduled for completion by the end of February! The crew also just completed the new widened walkway to the men's restroom and future women's restroom. As construction continues, the men's restroom is back open and the women are asked to use the restroom directly across from the kitchen door or the porta-potty behind the kitchen. The workers are also working on the church office expansion and plan to have that project done by the end of February as well. Thank you for your patience during construction and for everyone's generosity to the capital campaign to make these projects possible!

## **HENRY OPUKAHA`IA SUNDAY**

Sunday, February 17.

Each year we collect a special offering in honor and in memory of "Henry O", the first Native Hawaiian known to become a Christian. Henry Opukaha`ia is credited with motivating the early New England Protestants missionaries to move to Hawaii. The money collected supports the training of current and future clergy for Christian ministry by providing financial aid for seminary students.

**OFFICE CLOSED** Monday, February 18, for Presidents' Day.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Sunday, March 3

There will be a congregational meeting after the worship service. We will vote on our Open & Affirming Covenant. Please look over the covenant. Let's use February as a month of discernment and prayer. If you have any questions, feel free to speak with any one of our core team members: Michael Horning (chair), Lee Anderson, Kahu, Tiffany Marrotte, Becky Sakimae, Penny Osuga.

# 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'eie at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: [kucpenny@gmail.com](mailto:kucpenny@gmail.com).*

Wanted to thank our menehune (**Sydney & Caleb**) for un-decorating the Christmas tree, dismantling the Advent wreath/candles and putting everything away. Saved me so much time. More of our Sunday School Christmas play. The



kids did such a superb job! **Elizabeth Mares** is back after three fun weeks in the Bay area! Great



having **Mike/Fran Johnshoy** and **Lee/Carol Bowen** back in church.

Then I saw **Mike/Fran** at dinner at SEA (South East Asia Kauai)! **Kahu & Palani** enjoyed a few Molokai days:

stayed w/ our former pastor, **John Lunn**, visiting the Nature Reserve, Kalaupapa, Kalawao, Mo`omomi Preserve! They



bumped into

**Naomi** at the HNL airport!!!



Ladies' bath-

r o o m / office renovation is in full swing.



Thanks to **R e v .**

**Sarah Jones** and **Rev. Dr. Janet Long** for filling our pulpit. Great messages! "Do you



know how special you are? I do. Love, God". Ran into **Chel Hauser** at the post office! **Tiffany** took 16 (!!) of our youth for pizza and bowling! Ran into **Bob & Judy Gulde** at Costco!

**Lee Bowen** is filling his time on Kauai volunteering during tax season—again! Thank you to **Yone** who was our Sunday teller for many many years! Incredible miracle: **Betty Bell** was able to come to church! The choir sang a rendition written by **Kathleen Dahill** in her honor in the tune of "We Shall Overcome"!! Presented **Francisca Padua** with leis and a farewell cake



as she is moving to the Philippines. Was wonderful having **Cammie Matsumoto** in church. There were 16 of us at the **All Church Breakfast!** Really enjoy visiting with members/friends in that relaxed setting over breakfast & coffee. And the **Men's Breakfast** is also very popular—male bonding time! We had a smooth and successful Annual Meeting—thanks to all committee chairs, volunteers, **Kahu**, members and friends. We appreciate all your input and help and suggestions throughout the year. All committee reports were submitted in time to distribute a complete annual report. **Rosemary's** 2019 slate was approved & voted on and we have some new, some "seasoned" leaders of the church!! **Becky**

(and **Peter**) worked very hard on the 2019 budget which was also approved!! Thanks to **Kahu** for the lei for **Penny**. Thanks also to **Yvonne** who is our detailed and efficient secretary! We look forward to another great



year of working together. We celebrated **Kalaupapa Sunday** with a fabulous floral





arrangement from **Tom/Lynda Armbruster** in memory of **Jared Knapp Smith**; a special hula, “*Na Pua O Kalaupapa*” by **Rose Tatiana Warken Ceballos**, accompanied by



**Doug Duvauchelle**; beautiful song written & sung by **Kathleen Dahill**—*Hanohano Kalaupapa*. **Rosemary** was invited to paddle with the **Kukuiula Outrigger Club**—and she did!!!! Since she has retired, she hasn’t stayed still



much!!! Renovations are moving along! Check out the new wider sidewalk. As you may notice, my office is in more disarray than usual! The wall between my office and bathroom is gone, my desk has been moved, soon new floors will be installed, the copier will be



moved to my office, the new ladies restroom is coming along! Very exciting time—thanks to all of you for your contributions and patience. Here’s **Joni** working at my 2nd “desk”!!!! **Evan** and cousin, **Macy**, sang the praise song with **Uncle Doug**. **Lynn Mori** spent time in very-cold Montana with her daughter and family. Family time will definite warm your heart in the middle of a cold



spell, huh? **Dan & Naomi** flew to Sin City to attend a **Lady Gaga** concert! I’m so jealous! **Sydney &**



**Caleb** rode the **Kilohana Plantation** train. **Nolan** celebrated his 7th birthday!!! Growing up much to quickly!!! **Skylar’s** been participating in **Project Love**, a dance show about love through a child’s eyes!!!



Fantastic!!! More than 40 attended a lecture at Koloa Union on “*Theological Perspectives on Immigration*” by the **Rev. Dr. David Vasquez-Levy**. **Rev. Dr. Vasquez-Levy** is the author of several publications that explore migration stories in sacred texts and in people’s lives. He is the president of the **Pacific School of Religion** where our **Kahu** serves on the Board of Trustees. An offering to strengthen the ministry of the **Pacific School of Religion** was taken and a dessert reception was enjoyed by all. Always great hearing from former members...such as **Hoshi Sugawara & Nani/Jerry Hill**.



**Kalaupapa Spring Service Retreat**

April 24-28 on Moloka`i Our friend, the Rev. Dr. Phyllis Meighen, will lead this retreat to Kalaupapa. The cost is \$700 and a \$200 deposit due by February 28. For more information, contact Phyllis at 647-4346.





**KOLOA UNION CHURCH**  
**P.O. BOX 536**  
**3289 POIPU ROAD**  
**KOLOA, HAWAII 96756**

**FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER**



**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**

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**KOLOA UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

**February 2019**

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