



# Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

MARCH 2019

## ***A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA***

### ***Beauty, Art & Spirituality***

At the February Board meeting of Pacific School of Religion, I gave the opening devotional. I shared with my fellow Trustees some of my thoughts about beauty and art, and how they have informed my spirituality. I also shared how they have formed us as a community of faith at Kōloa Union Church. I told them about the many talented artists in our midst who freely share their talents among us: painters, quilters, musicians, dancers, authors, floral arrangers, lei makers, interior designers, poets and prayers (to name just a handful!). I explained how I encourage art to enhance our worship services—during the gift of music/dance, offertory, the lighting of advent candles, stewardship talks, presentation of quilts by our Prayers & Squares team.

After nearly 30 years of ordained ministry, I have come to believe that our art, our willingness to share it with others, and our appreciation and gratitude when it is shared, are among the strongest bonds that shape a community. Any time and any way we express ourselves creatively, we reflect the image of God. Any time we lovingly share what we create with others and any time we gratefully welcome it, we connect with others on a spiritual level. Perhaps it is in our artistic giving and receiving that we connect with God and others in the most profound ways. I think that is why every culture and every religion of which I am aware celebrates the art and affirms the artists in their midst.

When I was thinking about a theme for my upcoming sabbatical, “beauty, art and spirituality” popped into my head almost immediately. I want to explore some ways that others have experienced the sacred and a stronger sense of community through art. I also want to spend some time going deeper with my own creativity and consider ways that “the art within me” can be more fully expressed in our church. When I leave Kaua`i on March 4, I will spend three months focusing on this theme. I look forward to visiting places of beauty, art and spirituality all over southern France and in adjacent countries.

As I have mentioned before, 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.” I look forward to spending the spring in southern Europe as I reflect on how beauty and art will enhance our mutual ministry, and then begin sharing with everyone on Sunday, June 9, when I return what I have discovered on my sabbatical.

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

- March 03—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- March 10—Odo Honjo Dunas
- March 17—Ito Rebb Shim
- March 24—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
- March 31—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- April 07—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- April 14—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- April 21—Odo Honjo Dunas

### SHROVE TUESDAY

March 5, 6:00 p.m.

Join us on this day before Ash Wednesday. Observance of Shrove Tuesday/Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras/Pancake Tuesday can be traced back to at least 1000AD and is a time to feast due to the need to get rid of foods/ingredients restricted during the Lenten fasting such as eggs, milk, leavened flour.



### USHERS

#### MARCH

Christine Kube  
Graceleanor Baird

#### APRIL

Doug Duvauchelle  
Michael Horning

### LAYREADERS

- March 03—Karen Johnson
- March 10—Edie Moe
- March 17—Kerry Mori
- March 24—Debbie Gunning
- March 31—Kaylee Alapai
- April 07—Graceleanor Baird
- April 14—Kei Osuga
- April 21—Michael Horning
- April 28—Shryl Matias
- May 05—Doug Duvauchelle

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



## PASTORAL SUPPORT THIS SPRING

### While Kahu is on Sabbatical...

As always, our Deacons are available to assist church members in crisis. If you experience a serious illness, injury, personal loss or death in your family, please contact any one of our Deacons for support. Christine Kube is the newly elected Chair of our Board of Deacons, voted by the Deacons themselves (as stated in the church's constitution and bylaws). You may contact her at 332-8335. Also, Rev. Sarah Jones will be providing the message on Sunday mornings three times a month for the next three months; and she is also available for pastoral care. Her number is 631-2444 and can also be reached at Wilcox Medical Center in Lihue where she serves as chaplain.

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/Sunday, March 3

The congregation will meet next Sunday immediately after the worship service to vote on our Open and Affirming Covenant. Members are asked to make every effort to attend so that we will have a quorum for this very important vote. Thank you for those who have responded to the Open and Affirming Core Team with affirmations, suggestions and questions. Please give them any additional input by the end of today. Core Team Members are Michael Horning (chair), Lee Anderson, Tiffany Marrotte, Becky Sakimae, Penny Osuga and Kahu.



### BON VOYAGE PARTY/Wishing Kahu a Wonderful Sabbatical

You are invited to the Smith Memorial Parsonage (3281 Waikomo Road, Koloa) next Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. to wish Kahu a safe and enjoyable sabbatical in France. It will be an open house, so drop by any time during the afternoon. He will be departing on March 4 for three months. Enjoy cake, iced tea, coffee, good conversation, and a fantastic sale of Kahu's art.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST/Tuesday, March 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, March 26.

### ASH WEDNESDAY/March 6, 7 p.m.

We mark Ash Wednesday as the first day of Lent. It follows Shrove Tuesday. It is traditionally a time of fasting and prayer in preparation for receiving or reaffirming baptism at Easter. There will be a group meeting in Moore Hall so we ask everyone to enter and leave the sanctuary quietly.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The "Love in Action" ministry collects pillows, blankets, towels, clothes for the homeless. Our distribution count as of February 2019 is up to 998 pieces. Besides all your generous donations, we received 200 bars of soap from the Indigenous Soap Company. Thank you to all who have donated. Mahalo also to Suzanne, Jean, Judyth who collect and deliver the items.

### 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!

# AUNTY NIELE'S NEWSY NOTES

By Penny Osuga

*NOTE: Penny Osuga is Auntie 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 Auntie Ni'e le at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: [kucpenny@gmail.com](mailto:kucpenny@gmail.com).*

Another well-attended Men's Breakfast at **Kalapaki Joe's Poipu**. So happy to have our



s n o w  
b i r d s  
b a c k  
w i t h  
u s :  
y o u  
k n o w

they are part of our church family!! **Sam Tucci** made **Uncle Diki** famous by interviewing/taping **Uncle Diki** and presenting that in his Hawaiian History class within the Granite State College system!! Here are **Ella & Skylar** (in the **Garden Island**) selling their **Girl Scout** cookies. Had two very informative, well-attended Bible Studies reading & discussing biblical texts that encourage welcoming and accepting people who are different, as well as texts often used to condemn L, G, B , T, Q people. These are leading up to **Koloa Union Church** officially becoming an **Open and Affirming Church**. Look who was enjoying a delicious meal at **Kiawe Roots** — **Carol, Lee, Janet, Dan, Betty Bell, Shellee, Sheryl** were also there. Then we celebrated **Gong Hei Fat Choy** from



**Kiawe Roots** with **Belinda & Fay. Kairi** getting a boost from **Grandma Becky**



to ring the bell for the start of church. Thanks, **Fay**, for playing the organ and directing the **Ladies' Ensemble**. Thanks to **Rev. Tracy Barnowe** for filling our pulpit when **Kahu Alan** attended a Board of Trustees meeting at **Pacific School of Religion**.



**Rev. Barnowe** is the **Minister for Church Vitality** at the **Hawaii Conference-United Church of Christ** on Oahu. Fun at



Sunday school: **Tiffany, Bonnie, Hana, Kron, Kairi**. This empty hole will soon house two ladies toilets!! Thanks, **Dan & Naomi**, for spending your Saturday cleaning the church yard. I see new ti plants, weeds are gone, lots of trimming done. And **Dan** lassoed a large branch dangerously dangling from a high tree!! **Edie** spent 10 days in the Kona area with friends from Alaska. Thanks, **Christine**, for being the new Deacons Chairperson!! And here is **Bill**, taking on the Stewardship committee with **Peter**. Here is one happy mom, **Debbie** with **Sean, Andy, Lea** for dinner at **Kiawe Roots**. ALWAYS great having





members, **Dan & Joy King**, on island. We met them for lunch at



**Kiawe Roots**. Another fun movie night (thanks, **Doug**) with hotdogs

and popcorn. We moved indoors because of the cold and threat of rain. We handed out 48 beautiful red roses to the ladies in church — donated by **Blue Orchid**. Mahalo to our music director, **Kathleen**,



as she led our fab choir in a delightful song on LOVE! Enjoyed the annual Taco Toss dinner



The "JEANS"



Kahu w/ Ed & Carol Perrin

with our snow angels. A fun time to catch up.



**Becky** (Outreach Chairperson) had a fantastic first meeting with her energetic committee! Lots of marvelous ideas for the coming year. **JoAnne Machin**, long-distance member, is experiencing a very cold and white winter in Iowa. **Owen, Amber, Evan, Nolan, Toby Strong** enjoyed 10 days in Alaska with friends and family.



**Kahu** asked for our "two cents" and that's exactly what he got: **Penny and Penny!!!!**

**2019 Leaders of Koloa Union Church:**

*Moderator:* Doug Duvauchelle

*Vice Moderator:* Rosemary Smythe

*Recording Secretary:* Yvonne Stoner

*Treasurer:* Becky Sakimae

*Deacons:* Doug Duvauchelle, Debbie Gunning, Kei Osuga, Graceleanor Baird, Karen Johnson, Christine Kube, Michael Horning,

Rosemary Smythe

*Prayer:* Karen Johnson

*Finance:* Becky Sakimae

*Stewardship:* Bill Dressel, Peter Baldwin

*Building & Grounds:* Dan Giovanni

*Children/Youth:* Tiffany Marrotte

*Activities:* Christine Kube

*Aloha Hour:* Penny Osuga

*Outreach:* Becky Sakimae

We thank these amazing volunteers for giving of their time and themselves. If there is any area in the life of Koloa Union Church that interests you, please let one of us know.



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

**MARCH 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**

**March 2019**

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