



Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

MAY 2019

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

By Rev. Sarah Jones

In the month of May, the holiday of Mother's Day stands out as a highlight not only in the rhythm of our lives outside of church, but also in our worshiping experience because we celebrate Mother's Day on a Sunday. I am always sensitive in my preaching to not go on and on about my children or about motherhood. I know that there may be people in every congregation who either don't care for children and tales of their escapades, or who wanted to have a family and didn't or couldn't, which makes hearing about others' children painful and even traumatizing, at times. So I am very sensitive in general. But I can also see that this is a congregation made up of 'ohanas, many of whom are led by the matriarchs of the family: tutus and aunties and families that extend over Kaua'i and even the state of Hawai'i like a beautiful, extended web.

I believe that God has all manner of experiences and encounters and opportunities that he can use to teach us the lessons that we need to know throughout life—and those lessons are learned in different ways by different people, and we are each as different as every grain of sand and every blade of grass. And I also believe that although motherhood is for many a biological reality, and of course all of us here today had mothers, at least biologically, one can also be a mother without bearing a child from her womb. You can be a mother if you have adopted a baby, or if you are a godmother, or if you are an aunty, or if you are one of the many members of any village that it takes to raise a child.

You have been a mother if you've answered a call from a frantic neighbor with a new baby, and offered her an hour of sleep while you rock and walk and bounce the little one. You have been a mother if you've walked beside a teenager, allowing them to share things with you that they just can't bear to tell their parents, and have helped to lead them in the right direction. You have been a mother if you've hugged a lonely child at the school where you work or volunteer, squeezing them tight because you know they don't get very many hugs at home.

Being a mother, or like a mother, can teach us all so many things. For me, it has taught me many lessons already (with many more in store, I'm sure), and has been a tool that I believe God has used to help me learn more about myself and the world, and about God. One of my friends said to me right before Jack was born, "Well, now you get to really be a grown-up." While I believe that at some point, we all turn into grown-ups if we live long enough, for me it really has been true that having a family has helped me grow and mature, both in my personhood and in my faith. I pray that for you, the gift of being "motherly" and also receiving the love of mothers and those who act as mothers, is something you can celebrate this month. Many blessings on this month of May!



MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

Sunday, May 12

Join us for a delicious lunch prepared by the men of our church!!



SUNDAY SCHOOL BAKE SALE

Sunday, May 26

followed by a pool party!!!!

See Tiffany if you can donate any baked goods.

The church youth will be earning money for future activities and replenishing their funds.



ALOHA HOUR

- May 05—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
- May 12—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- May 19—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- May 26—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- June 02—Odo Honjo Dunas
- June 09—Ito Rebb Shim
- June 16—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
- June 23—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST

Join church members and friends for a relaxing and fun breakfast at...

Kalapaki Joe's Poipu

May 28, 2019

7:30 a.m.



USHERS

MAY

- Debbie Gunning
- Karen Johnson

JUNE

- Rosemary Smythe
- Kei Osuga

LAYREADERS

- May 05—Doug Duvauchelle
- May 12—Suzanne Pearson
- May 19—Jean Odo
- May 26—Virginia
- June 02—Rosemary
- June 09—Karen Johnson
- June 16—Edie Moe
- June 23—Kerry Mori
- June 30—Debbie Gunning
- July 7—Kaylee Alapai

Prayers for comfort and strength for immigrants and refugees, and victims of natural disasters and victims of bullying; prayers of comfort and healing for Dee, Mamie Powelson, Willie K, Rev. Richard Kamanu, Todd, Karl Bartels, Susan, Martha, George, Som, Tara Foley, Val, Larry Chaffin, Gary Struwe, Lizzie Macaninch, Rick, Danny Finnigan, Casey Moody, Kitty Tyler, Jane, Mark Schory, Skip Hance, Kilane, Judy Hunt, Galen Kaohi, Mahina Anguay, Bobbie Bulatao-Franklin, Van Pribilovics, John Pekoe, Rowan, Cori Swanson, Rochelle and John Lorenzo, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Steven, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Ted & Tamiko Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort and peace for the families Jack Odo; 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.

`AHA MOKUPUNI 2019, May 17, 18, 2019, "The Light Grows"

The Kapa`a United Church of Christ is hosting this spring's `Aha Mokupuni. Friday May 17: 5:00 p.m. opening worship. 5:30 p.m. dinner. 6:30 p.m. `Aha Mele. No schedule yet for Saturday, May 18. Please let Penny know if you plan on attending and we also need a head count for Friday night dinner.

SALVATION ARMY LUNCH TO SERVE

Wednesday, May 29 is the fifth Wednesday. Looking for volunteers to serve lunch at the Hanapepe Salvation Army. Let us know if you can help, meet there or carpool at the church.

PARKING NOTE

Thanks to all who have been making parking more manageable on Sunday morning!

Those who are carpooling and parking at the school and/or on Waikomo Road have made a big difference in creating room for the elderly and those who have trouble walking.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Maika `i Hana Hou!

Dan built shelves in the church office!!! The filing cabinets got fresh coats of paint. The ladies' breezeway bathroom and men's bathroom have been painted and look fabulous with new bamboo floors. The new ladies' bathroom is up and running, privacy partitions will be installed next week. Soon the copier will be in Penny's office. Brand new paper towel dispensers will soon be installed. All projects are near completion. Thank you for your patience during construction and for everyone's generosity to the capital campaign to make these projects possible!

SCENT-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We have members, and a kahu, who are highly allergic to various scents, often resulting in coughing, sneezing difficulty breathing and speaking, as well as other symptoms. Heavy perfumes and colognes are particularly troublesome. We are requesting that our church be, as much as possible, a "scent-free" environment during worship services, social activities and meetings. We realize that there is no way to keep all scents away, and we plan to continue having fresh flower arrangements each week and leis for special occasions, but we do ask everyone to be sensitive to the needs of those around them when it comes to perfumes, colognes and lotions.

AUNTY NIELE'S NEWSY NOTES

By Penny Osuga

NOTE: Penny Osuga is Aunt 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 Aunt Niele at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: kucpenny@gmail.com.

Congratulations to **Jim & Jean Semph** as they welcome granddaughter, **Kaiya Kimura!** **Becky** had a fun week in SoCal celebrating



Miss Ianara's birthday! Then off to Oregon for a few days.

Great having **Cathy Evans** on island!! Here she is at a group painting event in California. Sang happy birthday to **Bridget**



and **Aunt Jo!** Congratulations to **Al & Amy Sugano** and **Lee Anderson** for winning prize



ribbons at the annual Kauai Orchid Society Spring Fantasy Show!!! **Rae, Ella**



and **Carmela** danced their hearts out at **Love Life!** Better get your autographs now: April 6 was designated



Jeannie Odo day!!! **Jean Thompson** spent a month in Northern California (Napa, Sebastopol) with family & friends. Congratulations to **Kimo & Tiff** as they



celebrated their 12th anniversary! I have their wedding invitation in my desk drawer!!! Does that make me a hoarder?? Thanks to **Tiff, Amber, Trudi** and our church youth for a fantastic Palm Sunday service.



Their skit "*What the Animals Thought*" was so well done and so cute! Congratulations to **Mo and Lynn** (and great grandma **JoAnne**) as they welcome new baby, **Buster.**



Sharon & Shanaa Dee thoroughly enjoyed their Tahiti cruise!



Karen Johnson enjoyed her time in Tucson with family and friends. **Dan & Naomi** found time away from church yard work and church building tasks to have



fun in San Francisco with family. Then on to Italy with friends!! Thanks to **Rev. Sarah** and lay readers (**Christine, Debbie, Rosemary, Kei**) for a very meaningful Maundy Thursday service. Thanks to **Debbie** for a beautiful solo,



"*Peace Be Still.*" Congratulations to **Mimi Pagador**, retiring after 31 years of teaching. **Graceleanor** went to Oahu for a Hawaii Conference UCC Women's Board of Missions meeting. Former members,

Clyde & Sarah Shiraki recently visit New Zealand!! Long time church friend, **Marilyn Onstott**, is on a three week Panama Canal Cruise! Enjoyed a very nice "all church breakfast" at Kalapaki

Joe's Poipu. Eight of us enjoyed talking story.



Prayers for **Elizabeth Mares** who received a prayer quilt for upcoming back surgery. Thanks to **Toby** for ringing the bell to start church!!



Church friends **John and Angie Sheedy** (with daughter and son.in.law) magi-

cally appear every Easter from Minnesota! Always so good having them visit and seeing them!!!



Becky and Doug gifted us with a beautiful duet!!!.....*Hallelujah*. The kids (and adults) had fun on Good Friday coloring Easter eggs and



enjoyed a hot dog lunch (thank, **Aunty Cathy Evans**). Thanks, **Becky**, for boiling the eggs. Fun continued on Easter Sunday egg hunt!!!



This group colored TEN dozen eggs!!!



Thanks for my fragrant lei and sugar loaf pineapple in recognition of **Administrative Assistant Day!!!!** Pop your head into my office. Trying to get un-cluttered, thanks to my new



shelves built by "**D a n - t h e man**"! Privacy partitions going up in the new ladies' bathroom next

week!!! **Sydney & Caleb:** Piano and ukulele recital. **Kahu** in a rainy Barcelona (I think—can't keep track of his learning adventures).



That's Kahu up there!!



17+ in Sunday school on Easter



Rev. Sarah Jones and her family: Don, Jack, Irene, Maggie



Our 3 grandboys on Easter Sunday....in Texas



Our fabulous choir singing "Allelu, Allelu" Chris on conga drum. Our director, Kathleen, is back there somewhere.



KOLOA UNION CHURCH
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KOLOA, HAWAII 96756

May 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
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KOLOA UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER

May 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Note from Kahu Akana	1
Mother's Day Luncheon, Bake Sale	2
All Church Breakfast	2
Aloha Hour, Ushers, Lay Readers, Prayers	2
Announcements	3
Aunty Niele	4
Aunty Niele	5