

# Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

November, 2023

Aloha Kakou,

I have been watching with a mix of horror and grief the violence that has been continuing in the Middle East. A terrorist attack and then, a war of revenge has killed hundreds, thousands. So many women and children, innocent civilians.

I have also watched and listened to religious and political leaders struggle to find the right words to analyze the situation and express their own feelings about what has been going on. Many of them have tripped over their tongues trying not to offend one party or another. Many of them have been bitterly criticized for trying to say something, anything.

For all I know, by writing the above, I have now offended someone. Such is life these days. Please forgive me.

What I do know is that the Middle East is a problem originating far back in time, not just seventy-five years ago, but 750 years, 1500 years, and more. There are many stakeholders in this complex game with many different agendas. Every response, every "solution," will lead to unintended consequences, another problem.

Probably more violence. And there is no stopping, no end point, where we can say, "There! All better!"

What I have been saying to myself and a few others is, "Violence begets violence begets ...." It is a vicious cycle and I do not know how to break it.

Maybe, instead of dropping bombs and firing rockets at each other, we should listen to the thousands of children those bombs and rockets have crucified. And at the same time, repeat over and over what Jesus said in Matthew 5:9:

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they will be called children of God.

Blessings,

Pr Keith





# You are welcome at the table found at Christ Lutheran Church.

Welcome to those of you who come bearing diverse gifts including wisdom regarding sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

Welcome to all of you for your diverse colors, shapes, cultures, backgrounds, and traditions.

Welcome to those of you born here and to those of you flown here.

We seek to rejoice, grieve, heal and reconcile together as we gather around Jesus' table, which has been laid out for all.



# **Congregational Meeting!**

The Semi-Annual CLC congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19th, 2023 at 9:10 am followed by our monthly pot luck brunch. We will be needing to elect several officers as well as at



least one at-large Council member. If you feel God is calling you to serve in a leadership capacity, please let Council President Steve Peterson and/or Pastor Keith know. We will also be putting together and presenting the 2024 preliminary budget. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

# Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

# Happy Birthday

November 1	Lynette Sakamoto
November 3	Whitney DePowell
November 9	Amanda Spangler
November 18	David Rosetter
November 19	Lori Firth
November 20	Sherri Uecke
November 23	Johanna Jans
November 24	Chieko Higuchi
November 27	Nick Jans
November 30	Rose Melin
	Logan Riehle

If we missed your special day, please let the office know (office@clcmililani.org)

## Baptismal Anniversaries

November 7 Ele Clere November 19 Landon Acosta November 25 Rick Myers



# give aloha

## Foodland's "Give Aloha" Update

Mahalo Nui Loa for your donations! Thank You so much to all of you who participated in the Give Aloha Campaign at Foodland and Sack n Save during the month of September! You gave a total of \$803.00 to CLC which resulted in a donation from Foodland and the Western Union Foundation of \$236.75 for a grand total of \$1,039.75 We appreciate your generosity and commitment to the mission and ministry of CLC.



# 2023 Christ Lutheran Church Angel Tree



Christ Lutheran Church will once again make Christmas special for 75

children from the PACT (Parents and Children Together) organization. We are asking individuals to consider donating gifts and or gift cards for one or more children. Starting Sunday, Nov. 12th you may select the children gift tags after the church services. If you cannot attend a church service and would like to give to the Angel Tree, send email, text or call DeAnn Acosta. Contact information listed below. She can send you tags (Need to know number of children, age, preference boy or girl) or she can shop for your gifts, whatever is most convenient for you.

#### How much should I spend? When do I return the gifts?

Gifts should cost approximately \$15. Please return the gifts unwrapped, price tags removed and if the toys require batteries, please tape a set of new batteries on the gift. There will be drop boxes at the church on Nov. 19, 26, Dec 3 and last day Dec.10

#### What should I buy?

See page 6 for purchase suggestions by age.

#### Need someone to shop for your gift(s)?

Contact DeAnn Acosta and let her how much you plan to donate and she will reserve slots for you on the Angel tree and be your personal shopper. Cash donations are preferred. The cash/check can be sent to the church, given to DeAnn or arrangements can be made to receive the money during the church services.

#### Want to help with this project or need more information?

If you would like to collect/wrap large boxes to place the incoming gifts in, help with sign-up on Sunday mornings, sort the gifts to prepare for delivery, and collect money at services, please let DeAnn know that you want to be on the committee.

And if you have any other questions, contact DeAnn by phone or text at 808 371-7708, email: alohad50@hotmail.com

Thank you for your generosity during this Holiday Season!



# NOVEMBER, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
* Not a CLC Event: Please contact AI Anon or AA for further information. *Observed Holiday Office Closed			1	2	3Morning Prayer *AI-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	4 Morning Prayer
5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	6 Morning Prayer	7 Morning Prayer	8 Morning Prayer	9 Morning Prayer	10 *Veterans Day Holiday Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	11 Morning Prayer
12 24th Sun after Pentecost **Healing Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 11:30 am Church Council Angel Tree Gift Drive Begins	13 Morning Prayer	14 Morning Prayer	15 Morning Prayer	16 Morning Prayer	17 Morning Prayer *AI-Anon 7:30 pm * AA 7:30pm	18 Morning Prayer
19 25th Sun after Pentecost 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 9:10 am Congregation Mtg. followed immediately by 9:30am Sunday Brunch 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation Angel Tree Gift Drive & Drop Off	20 Morning Prayer	21 Morning Prayer	22 Morning Prayer	23 Morning Prayer  HAPPY THANKS GIVING!  *Observed Holiday	24 Morning Prayer  *Al-Anon 7:30 pm * AA 7:30pm  *Office Closed	25 Morning Prayer
26 Christ the King Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation Angel Tree Gift Drive & Drop Off	27 Morning Prayer	28 Morning Prayer	29 Morning Prayer	30 Morning Prayer		

#### **Canned Food Drive**

Canned Food Drive at CLC during the month of November to support needy families of Central & North Shore Oahu through The Private Sector Hawaii, an all-volunteer non-profit organization that provides food, shelter, and other



goods and services to the needy. During the holiday season, every food box contains a turkey/ham and trimmings to provide a feast for hungry people. As we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas, they are finding that there is an ever-increasing demand for what they have to offer, and they can use more help than usual in filling requests for assistance. The PSH is a 501(c)3 charity, and all donations are tax-deductible. Because they are an all-volunteer organization with minimal operating expenses, all monies and goods donated go directly to those people who can use them the most. You can help by donating nonperishable food items to the church throughout the month of November. Look for the drop box in the back of the Sanctuary.

Your gifts will be picked up by the staff of The Private Sector on Sunday, December 3rd at the 10am service. Mahalo for your support.



#### **Sunday Brunch**

The next **Sunday Brunch** will take place on **Sunday**, **November**19th between services immediately after the semi-annual congregational meeting. Bring whatever you'd like to share or

just bring your appetite. All are welcome to this monthly time of fellowship and fun.

## **Angel Tree Gift Suggestions**

**Age 0-6 months:** Rattles, squeeze toys, teething toys, textured balls, cloth/vinyl books



Age 6-18 months: Floating bath toys, push & pull toys, large blocks, books

Age 2-3 years: Wooden puzzles, Legos/Duplos, dolls large trucks, pretend play toys Age 3-5 years: Play animals, Play Dough, puppets, Legos, art supplies pretend play

toys

Age 5-10 years: Legos, art supplies/kits, books, dolls, backpacks, games, trucks/cars Age 10-13 years: Art supplies/kits, backpacks, Legos, sports items like basketballs,

footballs, etc.

**Age 13-17 years:** We ask that you purchase a \$15 gift card at Target, Walmart, or a Movie Theater.

## **IHS Ministry**

For many years, Jef and Amanda Spangler have headed up our ministry at IHS. After all this time, they have decided to step aside and turn the reins over to **Adam Palmer.** At right, Adam is pictured with Amanda at the October distribution.

Adam has helped with the serving at IHS several times and plans to "shadow" Jef and Amanda in December and will then take over guiding this ministry for us. In Adam's words, "I plan to just continue the same plan and good work done by the Spanglers with no changes."

The Institute for Human Services
Ending the Cycle of Homelessness



For those of you who don't know Adam, he and his wife

Angela are UH graduates who returned to Hawaii and began attending CLC last year.

Adam is a former Navy officer and now is the head of cybersecurity for First Hawaiian Bank. Again in his words, he and Angela "have been blessed and grateful to find CLC as our church home."

A huge MAHALO NUI LOA goes out to Jef and Amanda Spangler (and their entire family) for all the years that they have headed this important ministry. Their leadership will be missed but we know that Adam will continue the good work that CLC does through our association with IHS.

Our next ministry date is **Saturday, December 2nd.** You can sign up to help with serving the meal or donating cookies at <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-45665814-clcihs">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-45665814-clcihs</a>

or contact Jefery Spangler at 808-728-9144. The photos below show CLC helping to feed the homeless over the years.





### November Worship



Sunday Worship 8 am and 10 am

November 5 is All Saints Sunday
Please wear White

The 8 am service is offered on Facebook and the 10 am service is offered on Zoom.

Both feature on-line Communion.

The Liturgy of Healing is included in each service on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

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# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Church Office:
Phone: (808) 623-9229
Fax: (808) 623-3955
E-Mail address:
Office@clcmililani.org
Web address:
www.clcmililani.org

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