



Together We Are The Church

December, 2022

## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

December, 2022

Aloha Kakou,

As I was waking up this morning, I heard a news reporter on the radio say, “As we come upon the third anniversary of the COVID\_19 pandemic ....”

And suddenly, I was wide awake.

I don't remember what she said after that. I just remember the phrase “third anniversary.” So, we are having anniversaries of the coronavirus now? I looked up the definition of “anniversary” on dictionary.com: “the yearly recurrence of the date of a past event.” Okay, I get it. It showed up three years ago.

I also remember when we first shut down the world that we all thought we would be back up and running in a few weeks, a couple of months at most. Certainly, we would all be back in church by Easter 2020.

Who wudda thunk we would be talking about a third anniversary. I shook my head as I pondered that we have been in a pandemic for three whole years.

Then, a day later I heard reporters discussing the first anniversary of the Omicron variant. I thought to myself, “It's only been a year of Omicron? Seemed longer.”

I recall a scholar recently repeated a widely cited quote from the last century: “History is just one damn thing after another.” He added: “So is organizational life.” And I thought to myself: “So is pandemic life. And church life in a pandemic.”

Over the last three years in particular I have reflected and talked about radical uncertainty

(I read a fascinating book with that title during the 2020 Shut Down), factors that favor the microbe (read a book on that subject, too), turbulence (a page or two of a book), social acceleration (a big book!), complexity and chaos (lotsa books), and wicked problems (just a journal article). Cheerful subjects to ponder in a pandemic, aren't they?

But I also remember saying early on that some of us have been here before ... with HIV/AIDS. And we are getting through it. Not without pain and suffering and great loss, but we are getting through it.

And I have talked about how we are getting through it – with a poised resourcefulness, practical wisdom and moral judgement, well-developed coping skills, courageous next steps, small moves against destruction, embracing grief and lament, resonance with nature, music and art, and spirituality, and above all joy. (Lotsa books involved here, but even more so, beautiful people.)

As we move into the fourth year of Covid\_19, let us also remember that we are moving into the 2022<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the birth of Jesus. A new heart beats. New lungs breath. A recurring event. The world is indeed uncontrollable, but it is at the same time resonant, alive, and enduring. We persist to new birth.

A Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas!

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.*



## **December Worship Schedule**

**Sunday, December 4th 8:00am & 11:00am**

**Sunday, December 11th 8:00am & 11:00am with Special performance  
by the Celtic Kula Pipe Band**

**Sunday, December 18th - 8:00am & 11:00am  
with Potluck Brunch at 9:15 am**

**Wednesday, December 21st**

**Blue Christmas - 7:00pm**

**Saturday, December 24th**

**Christmas Eve Candle-lighting Service - 7:00pm**

**Sunday, December 25th**

**Christmas Day Services - 8:00am & 11:00am**



# Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

## Happy Birthday

December 3 Bill Kriese  
December 6 June Imperial  
December 9 Jiao Chen  
December 9 Russ Kino  
December 9 Mae Norton  
December 9 Keith Wolter  
December 20 Christy Sondall  
December 24 Keegan Rosetter  
December 28 David Sikkink  
December 30 Kaimana Higa

## Wedding Anniversaries

December 1 Rick & Anne Myers  
December 13 Joel & Anna Hamaguchi  
December 27 Bill & Gayle Kriese  
December 30 John & Ele Clere  
December 30 John & Jane Yanagida

## Baptismal Anniversaries

December 1 Andrew Zaffke  
December 3 Anna Sikkink  
December 7 Mary Lou Kimoto  
December 9 Jiao Chen  
December 11 Jim Sondall  
December 27 Ritter Zaffke  
December 28 Mattie Sikkink  
December 30 Keith Wolter



## Sign up for 2023 Offering Envelopes!

If you wish to receive offering envelopes for 2023, please call the church office at 623-9229 or email [office@clcmililani.org](mailto:office@clcmililani.org). If you are currently receiving offering envelopes for 2022, you will automatically be sent envelopes for 2023. If you would like to cancel your subscription, please let Shelby in the office know. Mahalo for all your blessings to CLC.



Once again CLC members and Rainbow Preschoolers have shown their generosity and filled the chancel of the

church with food that will be shared with needy families of central and north shore Oahu through *The Private Sector*, an

all-volunteer organization that provides food, shelter, and other goods to the needy. The food was blessed by Pastor Keith and then taken by representatives of *The Private Sector* on Sunday, November 27. Mahalo to all of you for your charity.



Mahalo nui loa for your gifts and your dedication to Christ Lutheran Church during 2022. As we approach the end of the calendar year, please note that all donations must be postmarked or received in the office by December 31 to be included in your 2022 contribution statement (for tax purposes). Thank you and God bless you for your generous support of CLC so that we may continue to be good stewards of what God has given us. Please contact Shelby in the church office ([office@clcmililani.org](mailto:office@clcmililani.org) or 808-623-9229) if you have any questions.



Not everyone is joyful at this time of year. So on Wednesday, December 21 (the winter solstice), at 7 pm we will have a service of comfort and encouragement for those who are feeling blue - of hope in the midst of despair. It will be an in-person-service and livestream with Pr. Keith and Assisting Minister only to protect confidentiality. All are welcome!





# DECEMBER, 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* Not a CLC event, please contact AI-Anon for further information.</p> <p>* Daily Morning Prayer is available on CLC's YouTube channel</p>				<p>1 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00 pm</p>	<p>2 Morning Prayer</p> <p>*AI-Anon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>3 Morning Prayer</p>
<p>4 <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p>8 am <i>In-person Worship</i></p> <p>11 am <i>In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i></p>	<p>5 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>6 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>7 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>8 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:00pm</p>	<p>9 Morning Prayer</p> <p>*AI-Anon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>10 Morning Prayer</p>
<p>11 <b>Healing Sunday</b></p> <p><i>Celtic Kula Pipe Band at both Services</i></p> <p>8 am <i>In-person Worship</i></p> <p>11 am <i>In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i></p>	<p>12 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>13 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>14 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>15 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>16 Morning Prayer</p> <p>*AI-Anon 7:30 pm</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>17 Morning Prayer</p>
<p>18 <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p>8 am <i>In-person Worship</i></p> <p>9:15am <i>Sunday Brunch</i></p> <p>11 am <i>In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i></p>	<p>19 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>20 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>21 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Blue Christmas Service 7:00 pm</p>	<p>22 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>23 Morning Prayer</p> <p>*AI-Anon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>24 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Christmas Eve Candelight Worship Service 7:00 pm</p>
<p>25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b></p> <p>8 am <i>In-person Worship</i></p> <p>11 am <i>In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i></p>	<p>26 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>27 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>28 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>29 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>30 Morning Prayer</p> <p>*AI-Anon 7:30 pm</p>	<p>31 Morning Prayer</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>



## MAHALO FROM CAROLYN!

*Dear Members and Friends of CLC,*

*Thank you so much for the terrific send off you gave me at the potluck & Worship service on Sunday, October 23rd. It was wonderful to see so many of you (some for the first time) who have come to mean so much to me.*

*The Certificate of Appreciation, the lei, the gift cards and the "Thank You" cards are all a reminder of what a special place CLC is and how grateful I am for the privilege of spending the last 2+ years in ministry with you. And the cookies were the icing on the cake. "They didn't last very long in my house".*

*As you know, our ministry together will continue as my role among you changes to that of a very part-time bookkeeper. Although that means less contact with all of you, be assured that you all will remain in my thoughts, in my prayers, and forever in my fondest memories.*



*Mahalo and Aloha, Carolyn*

## Mahalo Kapili Roofing & Painting!

CLC now has an AED. The AED was graciously donated to CLC by Kapili Roofing & Painting. We thank them for their generosity and are so grateful to have one for the Sanctuary. They are truly helping us to save lives!



## Christmas Poinsettias

We would love to have the sanctuary full of flowers to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. If you would like to purchase (or lend us) a poinsettia to help fulfill this wish, please bring them to the church the week of December 18th.



## Table Talk Small Groups

We invite you to join us in a small group setting centered around food and faith journeys. From February to April, meeting at least once a month, we will connect with around 6 other people from Church. Couples and Singles are invited to join. Signup Sheets are available near the bulletins and online at <https://form.jotform.com/223085236465053>.



## Holiday Sunday Brunch

The next **Sunday brunch** will take place on **Sunday, December 18th** between services (approximately 9:15-10:30am). Bring whatever you'd like to share or just bring your appetite. All are welcome to this monthly time of fellowship and fun.

# amazon smile

## The Holidays are Near!

*AmazonSmile* is a simple way for you to support CLC every time you shop, at no additional cost to you. When you shop *AmazonSmile*, you'll find the exact same low prices and vast selections and *AmazonSmile* will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to CLC.

So, the next time you go shopping at Amazon, don't log in to Amazon.com but use the website below. Then a portion of your purchase will benefit CLC without you even trying.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0226575>



Christ Lutheran Church  
95-1361 Meheula Parkway  
Mililani, HI 96789

## **December Worship**

**Sunday Worship  
8 am and 11 am**

**Blue Christmas, Wed. Dec 21, 7 pm  
Christmas Eve - 7 pm  
Christmas Day- 8 am & 11 am**

Masks not required  
but encouraged

The 8 am service is offered on  
Facebook and the 11 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.

## **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](mailto:Office@clcmililani.org)

Web address:

[www.clcmililani.org](http://www.clcmililani.org)

**Like us on Facebook!  
[Facebook.com/clcmililani](https://www.facebook.com/clcmililani)  
Now on Instagram  
Tweet Me @ Pr\_Keith**