

April 2019

Together We Are The Church

## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

Aloha Kakou,

As of this writing, we're off to a good start with our mid-week Lenten Soup Suppers & Study of Martin Luther's Small Catechism, a classic summary of the Christian faith. If you want to join us, on Wednesdays around 6-6:30 for supper and then, 7pm for the study, please do!

I'm looking forward to Easter this year. Thinking we've all got plenty of Lenten crosses we're carrying these days and that some resurrection might soon be in order. I'm also thinking about atonement and salvation – what God in Christ has accomplished for us at the Cross.

For the first thousand years or so of Christianity atonement and salvation were about overcoming sin, death, and evil (or even the personification of evil in “the devil” – or Satan, the Adversary). Sometimes it was “sin, death, evil, wrath and the curse”. In this narrative, God through the death of Jesus reconciled divine wrath with divine grace, or unconditional love and overcame forces opposed to God.

After that doctrines of atonement got all speculative in nature: God's wrath had to be satisfied by Jesus' perfection, rather than subsumed by love. Or God had to “pay off” the devil. It made for difficult thinking about “God is love.” God sounded more like a judge and executioner than a divine lover. Other notions had Jesus as a moral example on how to be good. Both types of “atonement” focused on what we had to believe or how we had to behave, rather than what God in Christ had done for us.

So, Jesus didn't so much “pay off” God or trick the Devil or become a moral example of faith as much as do for us what we could not do ourselves: reconcile God's love so that it swallowed up God's anger. Because in the end it is God's steadfast love, grace, and mercy that overcomes our brokenness, that is, our sin, death and evil.

The framework of atonement and salvation is divine grace, not divine wrath; it is Gospel, not Law. It is about God within that framework, defeating sin, death and evil through an utterly self-sacrificial death, loving us to death, on a Cross. To help us understand what I'm talking about, Bishop Andy Taylor will be preaching for us on Good Friday. Please, make plans to join us at 7:00pm on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Forgiveness, life and salvation through Christ – atonement – happen on the Cross and are vindicated at Easter. Those grace-filled benefits come to us through the work of the Holy Spirit who bestows on us “abundant life.”

Later in the month of April, a week after Easter, we'll be having the Affirmation of Baptism for several of our young catechists, our disciples-in-training.

I think it's going to be a grace-filled, joyous month. Please, join us as you can.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Keith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the word "Pastor" written in a smaller, more legible script above the larger, more stylized name "Keith".

Pr Keith

**Palm Sunday April 14**

Triumphal Entry Procession of the Palms  
Communion services 7 & 10 AM

**Maundy Thursday April 18**

Foot washing 7 PM

We gather as the disciples did in the Upper Room; we remember the  
Last Supper, and the altar is stripped bare.



**Good Friday April 19**

Prayer Vigil 6:30 AM—6:30 PM

Service at 7 PM with Bishop Andy Taylor of Pacifica Synod

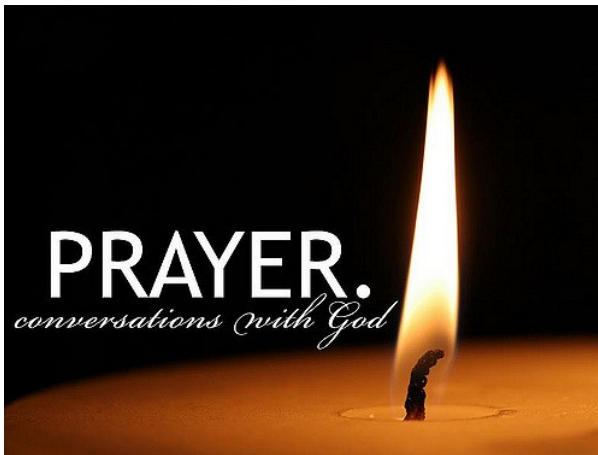
**Easter Sunday April 21**

Celebration Services with Communion 7 & 10 AM



It's not too late to join us during this lent season as we get together on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. for our traditional pot-luck soup suppers and 7 p.m. for study, reflection, and discussion, this year on Martin Luther's Small Catechism:  
April 3 - Holy Baptism, April 10 - Holy Communion

### ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL



Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 19th,  
6:30 AM - 6:30 PM in the CLC Sanctuary.  
You are invited to sign up and come to spend 1/2 hour or longer in quiet prayer. Prayer resources will be available, and you can also add your own prayer requests for others to see and pray for. Sign up on the CLC information table clipboards, or call 623-6236 Eileen Ward, email: [eileenward@mac.com](mailto:eileenward@mac.com)

## **Open Table to Mililani**

### **Reconciling in Christ**

As Pastor Keith says at every communion, our table is open for all who want to partake. Many of us at Christ Lutheran Church believe our welcoming spirit is what makes our congregation special; we pride ourselves in making sure anyone who enters our sanctuary feels at home. Some of us would like to begin a discussion in our congregation on how we can more boldly proclaim our Open Table to Mililani.

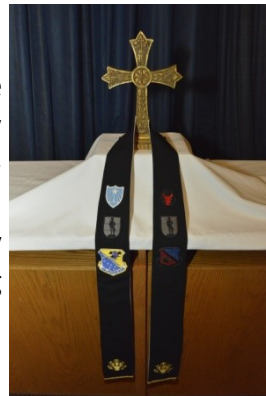
In 2009 the ELCA Churchwide Assembly decided to be welcoming to the LGBTQ community. Because of this decision, some congregations decided to leave the ELCA, some quietly accepted it to varying degrees, and some became Reconciling in Christ, meaning they fully and publicly accepted it. Since this decision was passed, hundreds more individual congregations have constructively discussed the issue further and have decided to also become Reconciling in Christ. There are currently 865 ELCA congregations who are Reconciling in Christ, two of which are on Oahu (Lutheran Church of Honolulu and Calvary by the Sea). There are also currently 386 congregations on the journey of discussing whether or not to be Reconciling in Christ.

A small group of CLC members have been meeting to organize this journey for our congregation with the goal of having constructive discussions around whether or not we would like our Open Table to be proclaimed more openly for the LGBTQ community. While it already is, we feel the cultural divisions in our society at this moment may make it necessary for those in the LGBTQ community to know that they are safe to worship with us. The end result of this journey will be a vote on a potential welcome statement to the LGBTQ community. We will be able to put this welcome statement on our website and CLC will be on a searchable list of Reconciling in Christ churches. People looking for a church who is welcoming to the LGBTQ community will be able to find us on the [Reconciling Works](http://www.reconcilingworks.org) website. Also, with a clear welcome statement on our own website, everyone will know without a doubt that they will feel safe at CLC. If we decide to boldly make our Open Table known, more people in our community may join us at it.

We are planning a series of educational opportunities for our congregation, so that we can have an informed discussion and vote with confidence. For more information, please visit [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org) or you can speak with anyone on the RIC Committee: Anna & Joel Hamaguchi, Linda Santos, Eileen Ward, Jane Yanagida, Ele Clere, Marilyn Lee, Shirley Momiyama or Kathy & Andrew Jans.

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

Congratulations to *our confirmation students* who have completed three years of instruction in our Confirmation Ministry program and have chosen to affirm their baptismal faith on Confirmation Sunday, April 28 at the 10 a.m. service. Please come and support them with your prayers as they continue in their journey of faith. All are invited to celebration cake immediately following the service.



Get Your Act Together and join the fun at the CLC Annual Variety Show...skits, song, dance, act, instrumentals. On Saturday, April 27 beginning with a finger food potluck at 6:00 p.m. and the show starting at 7:00 pm. Look for registration papers on the sign up table. Contact Sally Kino 808-224-5161 email: [kinos001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kinos001@hawaii.rr.com) for more information. FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

# CLC Annual Variety Show

# Anniversaries

## Happy Birthday

03 Anuhea Lantias  
05 Carrie Nelson  
08 Paulette Collins  
08 Matthew Momiyama  
09 Alexander Kriese  
12 Shirley Momiyama  
15 Alana Yanagida  
20 Gayle Kriese  
21 Marilyn Bisquera  
22 Credo Bisquera (in memory)  
22 Christopher Santos  
23 Meadow Spangler  
26 Nolan Acosta  
26 Joel Hamaguchi  
30 ZhiQiang Zhou  
30 Linda Kohlstaedt

## Baptismal Anniversaries

01 Barb Burke  
01 Eric Melin  
01 Moria Nisbet  
02 Tina Cox  
08 Valeri Matsuda Porter  
08 Thor Porter  
08 Charlie Smith  
09 Ethan Chong  
11 David Sikkink  
13 Linda Santos  
21 Nancy Pham  
23 Guirong Xu-Peterson  
26 Joel Hamaguchi



## Wedding Anniversaries

21 Jim & Christy Sondall



## KEEPING IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for - God's presence to Rina, Nick & Cal, Audrey, Sherlie, Jack, Nicholas, Jayden, Sierra, Mia, Betsy & Daniel, Hershey, Bob & family, for Nesi, Marjorie, Florentina, Dino, George, Eric, Rose, Mari, Michael, Lisa, Joan, Colin, Cecil, Shane, Mark, & Brenda. Healing for Bobby, Mike, & Naomi.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lent Bible Study	4	5	6 I.H.S. Day Serving Homeless
7 7am Contemplative Service 10am Communion Worship Service	8	9	10 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lent Bible Study	11	12	13 <b>CLC 39th Anniversary</b>
14 <b>Palm Sunday</b> Procession of Palms 7am Contemplative Healing Service 10:45am Healing Service	15	16	17 6:30pm Catechism	18 <i>Maunderly</i> Thursday  7pm Washing of feet	19 6:30am Prayer Vigil 7pm <b>Good Friday</b> Service	20
21 <b>Easter</b> 7 & 10am Celebration Services with Communion 	22	23	24 6:30pm Catechism	25	26	27 6pm Pupus 7pm Variety Show
28 7am Contemplative Service w/communion 10am Confirmation Sunday	29 Newsletter Deadline	30				
<b>APRIL 2019</b>						



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



### **Sunday Worship**

7:00 a.m.  
Contemplative Communion  
Service

9:00 a.m.  
PBJ's Puppet Team

10:00 a.m.  
Service of Holy Communion  
With Children's Church

Healing Service - 2nd Sundays

## **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America

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