



Together We Are The Church

March 2021

## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

March, 2021

Aloha Kakou,

Last Sunday I asked you, “What cross is Jesus asking you to take up as you follow him?” I didn’t unpack it much because we were using a Celtic Service of Word and Communion that required a wee bit of explanation in lieu of a sermon. I liked that service as a little changeup from the hymnal settings. If you like, we might use that once in a while.

So, as we move further into Lent, a time of reflection on the death of Jesus, I ask you here again, “What cross is Jesus asking you to take up as you follow him?” That is a more specifically Christian way of asking yourself, “What matters most? What is essential to my life and the lives of those nearest and dearest – family, church, community, nation, and even globally?”

Okay, that can get way too big and abstract – so, let’s follow the advice of that bumper sticker one still occasionally sees – “Think Globally, Act Locally.” As we consider the Big Problems – climate catastrophe, food refugees, terrorism, and the rise of authoritarianism – what local crosses, what small movements against destruction, can we take up as we prayerfully and contemplatively ask what it means to follow Jesus on the Way of the Cross.

I can think of a few for me and a few for us. Professionally, I am constantly trying to understand the “theology of the cross,” which is what the last few paragraphs have touched upon. I am also working on understanding complexity and radical uncertainty as aspects of congregational and community life.

Finally, I am pondering “intersectionality,” a term I first read about a few years ago that refers to the connections between discriminations – racism, sexism, ageism, classism, and heterosexism (homophobia), to name just a few.

Drilling down further to our little two acres here on the corner of Meheula Parkway and Lanikuhana Avenue, how can we reach out to our Central Oahu community, with food, comfort, and spiritual support in bodied, fleshly ways? How can we offer a worship meal as well as substantive meal services? What about this great new community garden that has been constructed by our local Scouts and volunteers? What about Sunday morning worship? How about the bi-monthly IHS suppers that we support? What other crosses, hard work, challenging tasks in which we love God by loving our neighbors, including some of the least lovable? How do we care for our loved ones and families in pandemic times and depressed economies?

Tough questions, one and all. Lent is the time for such questions. So I invite you to continue with me through March and on into Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter (April 4<sup>th</sup>). May the Holy Spirit of the Crucified One encourage us as we take up those crosses and follow Jesus.

Blessings to you in your Lenten journey,

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.*



## *Celebrations - Blessings to All of You*

### *Happy Birthday*

Mar 1 Joel Sikkink  
Mar 5 Dale Koenig  
Mar 13 Henry Zaffke  
Mar 17 Steve Peterson  
Mar 19 Kathy Jans  
Mar 20 Guirong Xu-Peterson  
Mar 30 Judy Kaupp



### *Baptismal Anniversaries*

Mar 14 Adam Burke

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

Mar 7 Eileen & Gary Ward  
Mar 19 Steve & Guirong  
Peterson

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



## Church Council Meeting February 21, 2021

Highlights include:

- ◆ How wonderful that so many people gathered on a Saturday to work on projects for the community.
- ◆ The community garden will need a fence and lock. Pastor is working on policies and procedures for the garden
- ◆ The cell phone tower is approximately 90 days to completion
- ◆ Apartment renovation is nearly complete.
- ◆ Approved proposal for lighting and fixtures for outside of church and lanais.
- ◆ Discussed adding new members to Church Council as some hold-overs from 2020 have now exceeded their time limits.

Next Council meeting: March 21 @ 2:30pm.



## IHS Outreach

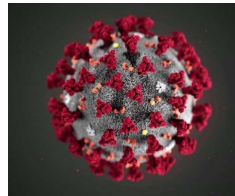
Our next serving date for IHS is Saturday, April 3. If you would like to help out with cooking, serving, or providing cookies, please sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f4ea9aa28a5fe3-clcapril>.

If you do not know how to sign up or do not have internet access or would like more information, please call Amanda Spangler at 808-728-9156.

## Mahalo Nui Loa

To... **Chieko Higuchi** for the many things she does for CLC, including heading up the Altar Guild (it's been every Sunday since the start of Covid), providing flowers for the church every week, making calls on behalf of the IHS ministry, serving as a head teller, and many other un-heralded acts. And she does it all with a smile on her face! You are very much appreciated, Chieko.



## How Does Tier 3 Affect CLC?

As you know, Oahu moved to Tier 3 on Thursday, February 25. Pastor Keith has put together a video of what this means for Christ Lutheran and our worship services. Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/xtNXw1C3Hsg>



# Hunter Spangler's Community Garden Project

Hunter received lots of help on his Eagle Scout project from high school friends, Boy Scout friends, and CLC parishioners. Mahalo to everyone who worked on this. Our neighbors will be the beneficiaries when the project is complete.





# MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 7 pm Kokua Hui	4	5	6
7 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	8	9	10 7 pm Kokua Hui	11	12	13
14 <b>Healing Sunday</b> <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	15	16	17 7 pm Kokua Hui	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20
21 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i> <i>2:30 pm Church Council Zoom mtg</i>	22	23	24 7 pm Kokua Hui	25	26 <b>Kuhio Day</b>	27
28 <b>Palm Sunday</b> <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	29	30	31 7 pm Kokua Hui	Apr 1 <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	Apr 2 <b>Good Friday</b>	Apr 3 <b>Holy Saturday</b>

# Work on the Cell Tower Has Begun!

Verizon is erecting a cell phone tower on a section of our lot next to the CLC parking lot. After months of delays partially due to the pandemic, work began on Monday, February 22, with huge equipment brought in to dig a 23' hole. Once the hole was dug, the workers lowered a metal cage into it. When complete, this project will provide a steady source of revenue for CLC. More photos can be found on the CLC Facebook page.

*Photos by Pastor Keith*





As the world has reeled from the effects of a deadly pandemic, we have seen the number of hungry people around the world rise, watched as food pantries and soup kitchens expanded to serve an ever-growing number of guests, and longed together for the time when we “will hunger no more, and thirst no more...and God will wipe away every tear from [our] eyes” (Revelation 7:16-17).

This very yearning is at the heart of who we are as church together. Yet our longing has never led to inertia or despair, despite the discouraging forecasts. We are an Easter people, every journeying toward the cross but trusting in faith that God’s story does not end on that hill.

You are invited to study, pray, reflect and give with us during ELCA World Hunger’s 40 Days of Giving - for our families, our neighbors and communities around the world. Resources, including a daily devotional calendar, and more information can be found at our website <https://community.elca.org/40days>.



## Annual Congregation Meeting 1/31/21

Highlights include:

- Recognition and Installation of Church Council members (all 2020 members are staying on for 2021 per resolution of congregation at 11/22/20 meeting)
- Election of Bud Jenkins and Bekki Zaffke as delegates to Pacifica Synod Assembly
- Discussion of the new cell phone tower to be installed beginning in February
- Announcement that 2020 ended in the black due to income from grants, Doug Stewart’s bequest, and continued faithful giving by parishioners.
- Approval of the 2021 budget
- Up-dates on Community Garden and apartment renovation projects



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



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

### **March Worship**

**Sunday worship - 8 am and 11 am**

Both in-person services abide by strict pandemic guidelines.

The 8 am service is offered on Facebook and the 11 am service is offered on Zoom. Both feature on-line Communion.

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!  
Now on Instagram  
Tweet Me @ Pr\_Keith**