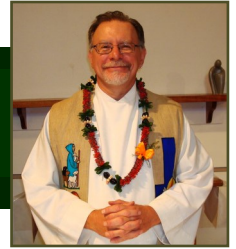


Together We Are The Church

July 2015



## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

Aloha Kakou,

**Wow! What a day!** Such wonderful turnout at both Christ Lutheran and Joy of Christ. Mahalo nui loa to one and all for your kind words, lei, good food and even that most “un\_Lutheran” of things – applause.

A special mahalo to Rev Tim Philips, Director of Evangelical Mission for the Pacifica Synod, and Assistant to our Bishop, Murray Finck. My deep thanks to him for coming to O’ahu to preach, be with us and install me. Special thanks to all of you who took part in the service. Your support means much to me.

On Monday evening, our two congregations’ leadership met at Joy of Christ with Pr Tim to debrief and talk about next steps. What I heard – among other things - was that we together have made good decisions about our partnership, that summer might be a time to “breathe” (catch our breath, aloha and Spirit?) and, in my words for Ordinary/Green Time, consider *Worship, Prayer and Reflection* as the next step in our lives of faith together. I would appreciate your response to these thoughts.

**And wow** – what a humbling and disconcerting shock (no exclamation points ...) that the suspected shooter at Mother Emmanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, South Carolina, was a member of an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregation, along with his family. And that two of the murdered pastors had attended our ELCA Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. Elsewhere in our newsletter we are publishing Bishop Elizabeth Eaton’s Letter on the shooting.

Suffice it to say that in the midst of joy there is also deep sadness and a powerful sense of tragedy. As a Christian, I firmly believe that life, not death, is the final Word for us and God’s creation. But that is no easy answer. Joy comes tinged with sorrow. Resurrection is preceded by a Cross. Confidence is confounded with doubt.

Continued on pg. 3



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## **A public statement from Bishop Eaton**

June 18, 2015

It has been a long season of disquiet in our country. From Ferguson to Baltimore, simmering racial tensions have boiled over into violence. But this ... the fatal shooting of nine African Americans in a church is a stark, raw manifestation of the sin that is racism. The church was desecrated. The people of that congregation were desecrated. The aspiration voiced in the Pledge of Allegiance that we are “one nation under God” was desecrated.

Mother Emanuel AME’s pastor, the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, was a graduate of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, as was the Rev. Daniel Simmons, associate pastor at Mother Emanuel. The suspected shooter is a member of an ELCA congregation. All of a sudden and for all of us, this is an intensely personal tragedy. One of our own is alleged to have shot and killed two who adopted us as their own.

We might say that this was an isolated act by a deeply disturbed man. But we know that is not the whole truth. It is not an isolated event. And even if the shooter was unstable, the framework upon which he built his vision of race is not. Racism is a fact in American culture. Denial and avoidance of this fact are deadly. The Rev. Mr. Pinckney leaves a wife and children. The other eight victims leave grieving families. The family of the suspected killer and two congregations are broken. When will this end?

The nine dead in Charleston are not the first innocent victims killed by violence. Our only hope rests in the innocent One, who was violently executed on Good Friday. Emmanuel, God with us, carried our grief and sorrow – the grief and sorrow of Mother Emanuel AME church – and he was wounded for our transgressions – the deadly sin of racism.

Continued on pg. 3

## **From the Pastor**

(Continued from Pg. 1)

I take comfort no more in pat answers to the problem of violence and sorrow. Rather, I take comfort in the presence of the Answerer, the Crucified One, who is “with us” in our brokenness. My favorite name for God is “Emmanuel” God-with-us, for even in the midst of violence, we can find courage and hope, if God in Christ only be with us.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel from our own fear, hatred and gun violence!

Blessings and thanksgivings for all of you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Keith".

## **A public statement from Bishop Eaton**

(continued from pg. 2)

I urge all of us to spend a day in repentance and mourning. And then we need to get to work. Each of us and all of us need to examine ourselves, our church and our communities. We need to be honest about the reality of racism within us and around us. We need to talk and we need to listen, but we also need to act. No stereotype or racial slur is justified. Speak out against inequity. Look with newly opened eyes at the many subtle and overt ways that we and our communities see people of color as being of less worth. Above all pray – for insight, for forgiveness, for courage.

Kyrie Eleison.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## *Installation of Pastor Keith Wolter*

*June 21, 2015*



Left - Pastor Keith with Rev. Tim Philips, Director of Evangelical Mission for the Pacifica Synod, and Assistant to our Bishop, Murray Finck

Below - Blessing with laying on of hands by Rev. Tim Philips, Connie Omo, Rob McClain, Rev. Angela Freeman, Rev. Phyllis Hormann, Rev. Joanna Forbes, Rev. Jeff Lilley, and Buddy Hooks.



  
*Installation*

# Puppet Summer School



*For the young & the young  
at heart!*

*Sundays in August, 9:15 a.m.*

*For ages 6 - 60*

*Learn the basic and advance techniques  
to puppetry, puppet aerobics, voice-  
overs, choreography, make and take  
home your own sock puppets.*

*YOU will be performing on  
Sunday, September 6, 10:15 a.m. @  
CLC*



### Summer Sunday Worship

10:45 a.m.

Service of Holy Communion  
With Children's Message and  
Healing Prayers with Anointing

Professional Keiki care  
provided

Healing Service - 2nd Sundays

Praise Band - every other Sunday

The next meeting of the Worship  
and Music Committee will be held at  
Ruby Tuesday, on Thursday,  
July 9, at 6:00 pm.

### Affirmation of Baptism

*Congratulations to Megan Julane Ulman who  
has completed two years of instruction in our  
Confirmation Ministry program.*

*Please continue to support her with your  
prayers as she will affirm her baptismal faith  
today and continue in her journey of faith.*

### Help Make Malaria History

Five years ago the ELCA joined the worldwide efforts to flight malaria by launching the ELCA Malaria ("Nets") Campaign with a goal to raise \$156 million by 2015 to support the malaria programs of 13 countries throughout Africa. As of May we're 94% there. Bishop Eaton has announced that we have fully funded our commitments to 10 country programs with positive results, but communities in three countries are depending on our support. Prayerfully consider one more gift anytime this month. Mahalo.





## Happy Birthday

05 Landon Acosta  
05 Brandie Matsuda Porter  
05 Thor Matsuda Porter  
06 Patrick Riehle  
07 Eileen Ward  
09 Anna Sikkink  
19 Eric Melin  
20 John Newton  
22 Sally Little  
28 Paul Herr  
29 Connie Omo  
29 Janet Riehle  
30 Kaleb Kino  
31 Ele Clere

## Baptismal Anniversaries

03 Anne Myers  
03 Hunter Spangler  
06 Ariana Lee  
12 Bill Little  
23 Sarah Cole  
24 Elizabeth Gresham  
24 Issabella Gresham  
26 Alana Yanagida  
26 Lisa Yanagida  
27 Gini Gustafson  
27 Eileen Ward

## Anniversaries

### Wedding Anniversaries

11 Sarah & Richard Salboro  
27 Kyle & Kristen Kino

### Baptisms

*Charles Deason Green*

*May 24, 2015*

*Parents, Peter & Nessie Green*

*Sponsors, Tim & Emily Green*

*(via cell phone)*

*Let your light so shine before others that  
they may see your good works and glorify  
your Father in heaven.*

*Noah Alexander McMann*

*June 14, 2015*

*Parents, Michael & Leah McMann*

*Sponsors, Jean M. McMann  
& Cora Perez*



**Christ Lutheran Church**  
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*Return Services Requested*



## **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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