



Together We Are The Church

June, 2022

## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

June 2022

Aloha Kakou,

I'm sitting thinking about what to write and all I can picture are the mass shootings in Buffalo, Laguna Woods, and Uvalde. On top of that I am pondering the overturning of Roe v Wade and what that portends on so many levels. What about Ukraine? The criminalizing of health care for transgender youth? The SBC report on clergy sexual abuse? Replacement theory? Voter suppression? The wildfires? What have I left out? My head is spinning.

At the same time I am remembering a notion, a psychological defense mechanism that was identified, I believe, in the 1980s during the traumatic Ethiopian famine in which millions died. Night after night we were subjected to news images of young children suffering from hunger. Experts began to notice that as the news relentlessly covered the famine, more and more people would get up and change the channel or simply turn off the TV (This was back in the day when one actually had to "get up" to turn the channel dial or push the on/off button!). The experts called this mechanism "psychic numbing," that point at which any more witnessed suffering and pain simply left a person numb. They could no longer process what they were seeing and experiencing. It was too much.

I think with what we have been through the last three years or so, with one tragedy after another striking us, many of us are becoming "psychically numb." It's not that we don't care, we do! It's that our central nervous system simply cannot process any more sadness, heartache, and disaster.

Because of our evolutionary conditioning, we are biologically trained to take in five times more negative information than positive. We had to in order to stay alive. Now, it leaves us psychically numb, unable to respond in meaningful ways.

There is nothing wrong with not listening to the news every morning, not reading the paper every day, or watching the news every night. It is okay to take a break, take a breath, get some exercise, rest, and even meditate.

We can't save the world – none of us can, not even me (surprise!). But with some exercise, rest, and meditation, perhaps we can pick one thing, maybe two, and focus on that issue. And trust that others are focusing on the things we cannot. "Small moves against destruction" – those are what change our world ... and pull us out of psychic numbing and back into caring for our neighbors, near and far.

Blessings,

Pr Keith

PS – It is Pride Month in June, especially on the continent. Let's think about that as we move through the month of June. Let's celebrate and affirm our LGBTQIA+ siblings in Christ!





*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.*



## **Pacifica Synod Assembly Highlights**

- ◆ The major news from the Assembly is that Rev. David Nagler of Christ Lutheran in Pacific Beach was elected the fourth bishop of the Pacifica Synod. His term will begin August 1. David's professional history includes pastoral work in Bend, Oregon, and Encinitas, California. He also serves as chair of the advisory board of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary.
- ◆ Pastor Keith was elected Dean of the Hukilau Conference (a nonpaying job, so he's not going anywhere!)
- ◆ The national Church Council was memorialized to look at the possibilities and limits of online worship, study, etc.
- ◆ The Assembly approved an invitation to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services to discuss the opening of an extension office within our Synod's territory.
- ◆ The entire Assembly celebrated Bishop Andy Taylor's service as bishop over the last six challenging years.

# Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

## Happy Birthday

June 7 Trenton Riehle  
June 13 John Yanagida  
June 15 John Clere  
June 20 Kanani Lanias  
June 20 Amanda Wally  
June 23 Mattie Sikkink  
June 26 Machell Vonberg  
June 27 Logan Stanford  
June 28 Sue Weaver



## Baptismal Anniversaries

June 2 Jia Spangler  
June 4 Marilyn Bisquera  
June 5 Bekki Zaffke  
June 13 Joel Sikkink  
June 14 Noah McMann  
June 15 Alex Belcher  
June 16 Nolan Acosta  
June 23 Pam Lanias

## Wedding Anniversaries

June 12 Berta & Bud Jenkins  
June 13 Sally & Bill Little  
June 15 Janet & Patrick Riehle  
June 26 Bev & Joe Murphy



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

## IHS Ministry

Our next ministry date is Saturday, June 4. You can sign up to help with serving the meal or donating cookies at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-christ2> or contact Amanda Spangler at 808-7258-9156. If you are providing cookies, please bring them to the church by noon on Saturday. The photo is from our ministry on April 2.





Hawai'i Vocal Arts Ensemble presents  
**A CONCERT FOR UKRAINE**

Chorus and instrumentalists  
with Leon Williams, baritone

Music for peace and healing by  
Mozart, Bach, Ola Gjeilo, Israel K.,  
Rodgers and Hammerstein, and more.

Reservations online with donation  
at [hawaiiivocalarts.eventbrite.com](http://hawaiiivocalarts.eventbrite.com)

All proceeds donated to Ukraine relief.

Care  
Save the Children  
International Rescue Committee  
Lutheran World Relief

Saturday June 18 at 7:30pm  
St. John Lutheran Church, Kailua

Sunday June 19 at 4:00pm  
Lutheran Church of Honolulu

# JUNE, 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 IHS Ministry
5 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	6	7	8	9	10 Kamehameha Day Holiday	11 Kamehameha Day
12 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	13	14	15	16 Newsletter Deadline	17	18
19 <b>Fathers Day</b> <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship &amp; by Zoom invitation</i> Church Council - time TBA	27	28	29	30	1	2

*On Thursday, May 26 (Ascension Day), Pastor Keith did a Service After a Violent Event on our Facebook page. An excerpt from the Prayers of Intercession in that service is below. The full service can be viewed on our Facebook page and on our YouTube page.*

## **An Excerpt from A Service After a Violent Event**

God, giver of life, you intend for humans to live together in peace. In this time of grief over gun violence, we pray for your presence among us. That, trusting in your mighty and gentle healing, we may live in hope, we pray:

**make us instruments of your peace.**

God of resurrection, we remember before you those who have died in Buffalo, in Laguna Woods, and in Uvalde. We commend them to your eternal love. Grant healing and wholeness to the survivors who are wounded or traumatized. Restore all whose spirits are maimed by such violence. That we may serve as your arms of care to those in distress, we pray:

**make us instruments of your peace.**

God of righteousness, you have laid on our elected leaders the responsibility to protect our land. Strengthen their devotion to our common life, and guide legislators to enact policies that address our plague of gun violence. That our government may support our search for domestic harmony, we pray:

**make us instruments of your peace.**

Our help comes from you, O Lord,  
you who made heaven and earth.  
In the midst of grief, you are our comfort.  
In the face of uncertainty, you are our rock.  
In the wake of tragedy, you are our hope.  
So even as we weep, we praise you,  
and place our trust in you.

We pray in the name of the one  
who suffered and died and was raised for us,  
our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



*God our Father,  
we give you thanks and praise  
for fathers young and old.*

*We pray for young fathers,  
newly embracing their vocation;  
May they find the courage and perseverance  
to balance work, family, and faith  
in joy and sacrifice.*

*We pray for our own fathers  
who have supported and challenged us;  
May they continue to lead  
in strong and gentle ways.*

*We remember fathers around the world  
whose children are lost or suffering;  
May they know that the God of compassion  
walks with them in their sorrow.*

*We pray for men who are not fathers  
but still mentor and guide us  
with fatherly love and advice.*

*We remember fathers, grandfathers, and  
great grandfathers  
who are no longer with us  
but who live forever in our memory  
and nourish us with their love.  
Amen.*

# A Prayer for Summer

## “Come Summer With Me”

Come summer with me, Lord;  
summer deep down in my soul;  
restore my faith in summer’s time,  
in rest, in joy, in play, in you...



Summer in my heart, Lord,  
and dwell there  
as if time would never end,  
as if all time were children's time, eternal time  
when school is always out and joy is ever in...

And let others summer in my shade, Lord,  
and share whatever summer’s peace is mine to give,  
whatever summer’s light is mine to shed,  
whatever summer's warmth is mine to share...

Good God of every season and every day this week,  
come summer with me, Lord, and let the child in my heart  
spend this summer in your love...

Amen.

*(A prayer by Fr. Austin Fleming who blogs at “A Concord Pastor Comments.”)*





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## **June Worship**

**Sunday worship -  
8 am and 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*

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