



Together We Are The Church

October, 2023

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

October, 2023

Much has happened since last I wrote a newsletter article – Rally Day, Keiki Church, solar panel discussions, a vacation to the continent, getting Covid_19 from the plane flight over (probably), visiting (some) friends but not all, due to isolating.

And Vicar Sena is now Pastor Sena, the Reverend Sena Norton! Yay! It was quite a day and she asked me to preach. I must have practiced that sermon a hundred times in my head. I rewrote it several times. I think it came out okay.

One vignette from that sermon I have carried with me for decades and I share that with you now. During my last year in seminary (1984) one of my professors told our class about a time when he was approached by a soon-to-be graduated, called, and ordained student, who was in high distress.

“Professor, how can anyone be a pastor? What with everything we have to deal with – stewardship, worship, evangelism, education, property, and community service. There’s administration, financials and budgets, HR, not to mention death & dying. And what about the Altar Guild?”

The professor, who was known for reading others’ minds and exhibiting a non-anxious presence, calmly looked up at the student, smiled kindly, and said, “I have always found that Word and Sacrament Ministry is a full-time job. Everything else follows afterward.”

I have recalled that narrative every time I feel overwhelmed by what needs to be done, and done yesterday. Proclaiming the Word of the Gospel, God’s love for us in Christ, and baptizing and communing beloved persons in sacred rituals of grace is a lot of work.

I have been listening to a lot of pastors’ rants and raves lately – mostly not Lutheran or even mainline Protestant. Mainly white, male fundamentalist preachers with bushy beards who do not seem to like women, people of color or LGBTQ+ people. The rule-making, the discrimination, the hate – all in the name of a God who loved us so much he died for us – has been truly stunning. Wherever did they find THAT Jesus?

More than ever we need – all of us, really – we need to share God’s love in Christ crucified and risen for all of us, for our creation, for the critters, for each other.

Yes, Ministry of Word and sacrament is a full-time job in our world of division, mission, and outrage. It takes great effort some days to love my neighbors and my enemies. But that is ministry. Welcome to ministry Pastor Sena! Who’s next for this ministry? Batter up!

Much love,

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.*



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is breast cancer awareness month, and experts say early detection is key to fighting breast cancer.

The American Society of Breast Surgeons recommends getting a mammogram every year starting at age 40 for a normal risk woman. High risk women, however, are recommended to start getting regular mammograms at age 30. Significant family history of cancer and certain genetic mutations are factors that could allow a woman to be considered high risk.

About 1 in 8 women in the US develop invasive breast cancer. It is the most common cancer in women and the deadliest after lung cancer.

A friend and parishioner has this plea to the women of CLC: *“Please be current in your mammogram screenings. It may save your life as it did me!”*



Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

Happy Birthday

October 5	Pam Lanias
October 9	Marion Thompson
October 18	Dick Crislip
October 19	Jackie Pang
October 20	Tina Cox
October 21	Rick Myers
October 23	Linda Santos
October 24	Autumn Maginot
October 26	Adam Burke
October 28	Alice Culpepper
October 31	Michelle Colte

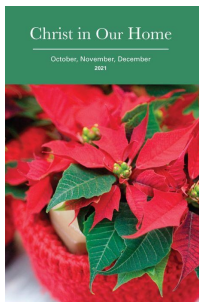
Baptismal Anniversaries

October 13	Dale Burke
October 23	Mae Norton
October 27	Chieko Higuchi
October 28	John Clere



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

Christ in Our Home



A limited number of copies of *Christ in Our Home*, a daily devotional booklet, for the months of October, November and December are available from the church office or at the Sunday worship service.

Special Sundays Coming

October 29th

**The Celebration of the
Reformation (wear red)**

November 5th

All Saints Sunday (wear white)



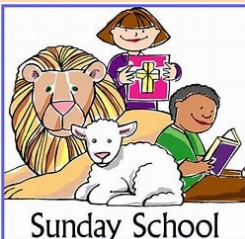
UPDATE - Congregation solar meeting is a go!

The CLC council met on Sept 17 to vote on the solar proposals received and has voted to take the proposal to the Church Congregation, the meeting will take place on **October 1st at 9:15 am.**

Please mark your calendars for this congregational meeting. **MAHALO**

Sunday Brunch

The next **Sunday Brunch** will take place on **Sunday, October 15th** between services (approximately 9:15-9:45am). Bring whatever you'd like to share or just bring your appetite. All are welcome to this monthly time of fellowship and fun.



Keiki Church is back!

Join us every Sunday between services at 9:15 am for Sunday School. Open to ages Pre K-6th grade.

Everyone is welcome!
Church members, non- members, friends
and neighbors. Spread the Word!

OCTOBER, 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
* Not a CLC Event: Please contact Al Anon or AA for further information.						
1. 18th Sun after Pentecost 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 9:15am Cong. Mtg. on Solar 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	2 Normal Office Hours 8:30-1:30	3 Normal Office Hours 8:30-1:30	4 Morning Prayer Normal Office Hours 8-1	5 Morning Prayer Office Closed	6 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6 *Al-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	7 Morning Prayer
8 19th Sun after Pentecost **Healing Sunday All Saints Sunday Sign Up begins 8 am In-person Worship 9:15am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	9 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6	10 Morning Prayer Office Closed	11 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6	12 Morning Prayer Office Closed	13 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6 *Al-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	14 Morning Prayer
15 20th Sun after Pentecost 8 am In-person Worship 9:15am Sunday Brunch 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 11:30am Chrch.Cncl.Mtg	16 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6	17 Morning Prayer Office Closed	18 Morning Prayer Office Open 10-6	19 Morning Prayer Normal Office Hours Resume 8:30-1:30	20 Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm * AA 7:30pm	21 Morning Prayer
22 21st Sun after Pentecost 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	23 Morning Prayer	24 Morning Prayer	25 Morning Prayer	26 Morning Prayer	27 Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm * AA 7:30pm	28 Morning Prayer
29 REFORMATION SUNDAY Wear Red! 8 am In-person Worship 9:15 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	30 Morning Prayer	31 Morning Prayer Deadline for All Saints Sunday Sign-Up				



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

Why I am against Christian Nationalism

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

As Christians we affirm that all people are created in God's image and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. And so, as Christians we reject harmful ideas. Sadly, we've seen an increased polarization among us, even in our church. This coincides with an alarming rise in hate speech and violence against religious and ethnic minorities in this country.

There is a movement known as Christian Nationalism that is attempting to define what it means to be, quote, a real American. Christian Nationalists would define a real American as white, Christian and native born. That idea is disturbing and cause for concern.

Christian Nationalists want to legislate that the United States is a Christian nation where Christianity should be privileged and only Christians should hold office. The movement seeks to link religious and political identities, often promoting racist, exclusionary and divisive ideology. This idea is neither Christian nor patriotic.

Patriotism means upholding the values of our country, such as liberty, justice, and equality, while also celebrating our diversity. That is what the United States motto means, e pluribus Unum: out of many, one.

It's ironic that the Puritans fled religious persecution and their descendants shaped the First Amendment of the Constitution which states, Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free expression thereof, There is no doubt that a majority of Americans identify as Christian. But that is different from declaring Christianity as the established religion.

When Lutheran immigrants first came to this country in the 18th and 19th centuries, they weren't considered real Americans. They did not speak English or fit in with the Deist, Calvinist religious majority. They were other and therefore suspect. German Lutheran immigrants weren't considered white. Neither were Irish, Italians or Poles. Catholics and Jews were considered an alien threat.

God knows I love my country. This beautiful, fragile, yet surprisingly resilient experiment in democracy and nationhood is not predicated on shared ethnicity. America is unique among nations. My grandfather, father and uncles all served during World Wars One and Two. I had the honor of placing a wreath on behalf of the ELCA at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. I will not have my patriotism questioned.

Christian Nationalism is a perversion of the gospel and a threat to our democracy. It's precisely because I love my country that I warn against Christian nationalism. What binds us together is not ethnicity but shared participation in our civic life springing out of our cultural heritages and working for the common good. As Lutherans it is our Christian calling to work together towards a more inclusive society.

Be well, dear church.

** Transcript above is from Bishop Eaton's video message on Aug. 18, 2023.
To watch the full video, please visit www.elca.org*

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



On All Saints Sunday, November 5th, we remember those who have passed on in the last year. Beginning October 8th, If you would like to include your loved ones in our special prayers, please enter their names on our remembrance sheet located on the information table, or you can email your loved one's name to office@clcmililani.org by October 31st.



IHS Ministry



Our next ministry date is **Saturday, October 7th**. You can sign up to help with serving the meal or donating cookies at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-clcoctober> or contact Jefery Spangler at 808-728-9144.



Temporary Office Hours



CLC Office hours will temporarily change from October 5th through October 18th (**Office Closed on Thursday, Oct. 5th**) to M, W, F 10am - 6pm while Carolyn fills in for Shelby during her vacation.

Normal office hours M, T, Th, F (8:30am-1:30pm) & Wed (8:30am-1:00pm) will resume on Thursday, October 19th.



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

October Worship



**Sunday Worship
8 am and 10 am**

**Reformation Sunday, Oct. 29
WEAR RED!**

Masks not required
but encouraged

The 8 am service is offered on
Facebook and the 10 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

Web address:

www.clcmililani.org

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