



Together We Are The Church

January 2021

## Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

January 2021

Aloha Kakou,

The one thing I cannot fathom is how 340,000+ Americans could be dead from the novel coronavirus. All alive just a mere twelve months ago. In my October newsletter I marveled at 200,000 dead. Now ... I am at a loss for words.

This should not have been. Many of these deaths could have been prevented. But they were not.

The old norms, the old ways of doing and being human, are dead and gone, too. Social behaviors – like dining out, going to church, school and work – are changed forever. The way we travel the globe is changed forever. How we understand our place in God's creation is changed forever.

What we formed has been deformed. Utterly deformed – familiar, recognizable but not. And now, at the same time it is still deforming, we are taking next steps in reforming. There are no magic pills, no silver bullets, no quick fixes that will allow us to “go back to normal.” I am always surprised when I hear people say, “When things get back to normal.” After almost one hundred twenty 9/11s this year, we gotz no “normal” to go back to. But we are taking next steps together.

Formation, deformation, reformation. We are the Church of the Reformation. Always on the move, creating. Always questioning, doubting. Always crucifying, dying. Always resurrecting, recreating.

As such we just may have something to offer people as they grieve, mourn, and weep for loved ones and our no-longer-sacred way of life. We can speak “Jesus” – that is, live by grace in Christ who was formed at Christmas and his Baptism, deformed by his arrest, torture and crucifixion, and reformed at his resurrection and ascension.

We are the Church of the Reformation, with something to offer: faith, hope, and love through the Crucified Christ. God is Immanuel, with us, forming, deforming and reforming. Birthing, crucifying, and resurrecting.

Christmas Blessings as we stagger into the New Year.

Pr Keith

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



*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*

- 01 Bud Jenkins
- 01 Alex Belcher
- 02 Ashley Maginot
- 02 Ellie Stanford
- 06 Jean McMann
- 10 Milla Hill
- 14 Hagen Zaffke
- 15 Marilyn Lee
- 20 Jim Collins
- 21 Pua Good
- 25 Nelson Acosta
- 26 DeAnn Acosta



### *Baptismal Anniversaries*

- 01 Whitney DePowell
- 05 Russ Kino
- 10 Maddy Robinson-Sato
- 13 Logan Chong

### *Wedding Anniversaries*

- 28 Collette & Neil Wiedemann

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



Ritter Daniel Zaffke was baptized on Sunday, Dec 27. Welcome to God's family, Ritter.



## Mark Your Calendars

The **January Semi-Annual Congregation meeting** will take place on **Sunday, January 31**, following the 11 am service.

The Annual Report booklet will be available for pick up at both services on Sunday, January 24. It will also be posted to our website the week before the meeting so you can look it over ahead of time.

Reminder to those of you who are submitting reports: they are due in the office on Friday, January 8.



## Mahalo for making the Virtual Angel Tree a Huge Success!

**"It's not how much we give but  
how much love we put into giving."**

Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) members once again shared their love and generosity by making Christmas special for **130 children** in need in our community. With the pandemic and not being able to be physically at the church, we were unsure that we could reach our normal number of 100 children. We were even more concerned when the organization requested that we buy gifts for 111 children. Despite all the challenges we faced, the small but mighty CLC congregation rose to the challenge and responded quickly by signing up on our online virtual angel tree way before the deadline. Cash donations came in from all over for us to go shopping for gifts. Amazon shoppers sent their gifts to the church, and gifts were dropped off on the designated Saturday mornings. It was amazing, and I was honored to be a part of such a wonderful project.

Since we exceeded the 111 children from PACT (Parents and Children Together), we reached out to the Salvation Army Angel Tree and bought gifts for more children. We also received a donation from a High School student. Her money helped buy school supplies for the High School backpacks that we purchased.

Special Mahalo to Mary Lou Kimoto for doing some shopping, finding boxes, collecting gifts/tagging the gifts, and providing me with wonderful instructions on how to carry out this project. I also want to thank my family for helping with shopping, boxing, and carrying gifts. It was definitely a great team effort!

Thank you again CLC for making Christmas brighter for so many children!

DeAnn Acosta



Chieko Higuchi (top) and Pua Good (bottom) show off some of the donated gifts for the Angel Tree project. More photos on pg 6



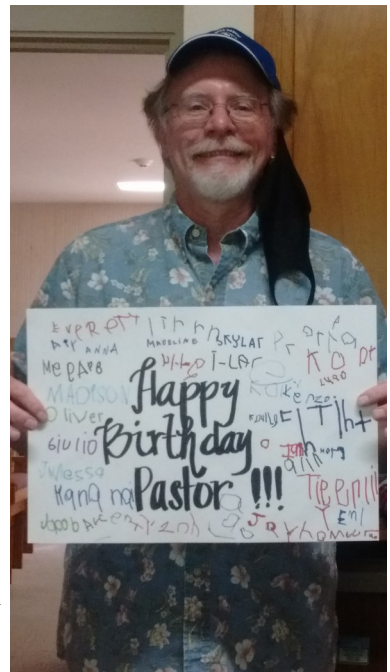
# JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day	2
3 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	4	5	6	7	8 Annual reports deadline	9
10 Healing Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 2:30 pm Church Council Zoom mtg	18 Martin Luther King Day	19	20 Inauguration Day	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23
24 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 12 pm Semi-Annual Mtg In-person & via Zoom						

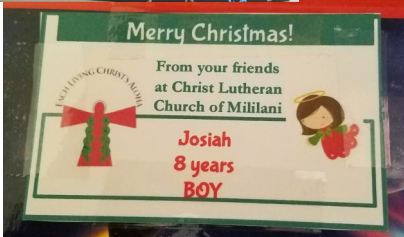


*Photos above and on left:*  
**Above:** The Angel Tree gifts filled the van; (L-R: Pastor Keith, Mary Lou Kimoto, Nelson & DeAnn Acosta; PACT representative in front).  
**Left:** The Acostas and Mary Lou show off some of the donated gifts.  
**Center left:** A sampling of what was donated.  
**Bottom left:** A tag went with each gift.

*Photos by DeAnn Acosta*



**Right:** On his special day, the preschoolers gifted Pastor Keith with a giant birthday card signed by all the students and staff.



## Giving Without Effort

You can help out Christ Lutheran Church in Mililani any time you shop with Amazon. AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support CLC every time you shop, at no additional cost to you. When you shop AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices and vast selections and AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to CLC. So, the next time you go shopping at Amazon, don't log in to Amazon.com but use the website below. Then a portion of your purchase will benefit CLC without you even trying.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0226575>



## Interested in Lutheran News and Information Or Daily Devotions?

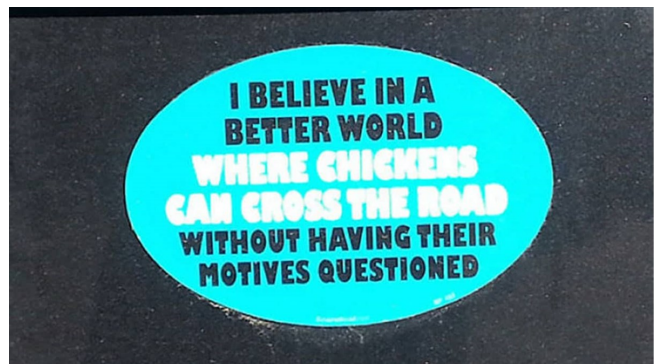
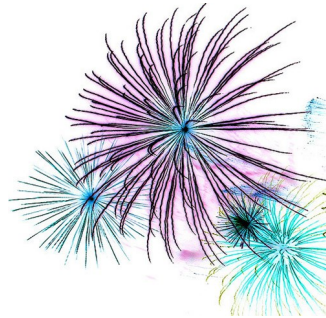
*Living Lutheran* helps you stay connected with this church, providing news on social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, faith and family, spiritual practices and resources, and more. CLC has several subscriptions but since we haven't been able to put them out for people to pick up due to the pandemic, they usually end up in the recycle bin. If you would like a copy, please drop a note to the office or give us a call. We'll be happy to mail it to you.

The same is true for *Christ in Our Home*, a daily devotion booklet that is issued every 3 months. Here again, we always have extras in the office. Just let us know if you are interested.



## The Power of Prayer

We have "resurrected" the CLC Prayer Chain. If you are in need of prayer, let the office know and we'll send your requests to our prayer chain members. If you like to pray for others, please contact Pastor Keith about joining the group.





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



### January Worship

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

In addition, the 11 am service is offered on Zoom and Facebook with on-line Communion.

**Sunday, 1/31/21**

Semi-annual Congregation meeting following 11 am service

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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