



Together We Are The Church

May 2021

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

May, 2021

Aloha Kakou,

I got my second Pfizer shot about ten days ago as of this writing. No side effects, that I noticed. Took pictures and posted them online for all the world to see. Encouraging others to get jabbed.

Some of you asked me if I felt relieved afterward. While the entire process was a breeze, I am telling people, “No, I don’t’ actually feel relieved.” Not in the sense of now things are fixed. Nor that technology has saved me. Nor that we/I can go back to normal, whatever that is. Maybe relieved in that I’ve added another important layer of protection from the coronavirus. But that’s about it.

Pensive is what I am feeling. That it has come to this – a vaccination against a virus that has wreaked havoc across the globe. Not equally, but widely. “What does this mean?” as Martin Luther liked to say. How do we/I make sense of this? – that over two million people have died of Covid19, that millions more have endured it and have long-term effects, that eight billion people need to be vaccinated, because none of us will be safe until all of us are safe. So, pensive is, I think, the best word for now: “expressing thoughtfulness, usually marked by some sadness.” (www.dictionary.com)

Dan Erlander, in his short booklet, Baptized, We Live: Lutheranism as a Way of Life, writes “God meets us most profoundly at the point of our deepest reality – our honest confrontation with weakness, pain, solitude and death.” (page 4). So true. It is the message of Good Friday and Easter Sunday: The God of the Cross meets us most clearly in our moments of greatest human vulnerability, when we realize that we are not invincible and immortal ... that we are frail and delicate. That someday we will die ... pensive.

The same week I got my second shot, George Floyd’s murderer was convicted. We observed Earth Day in the midst of climate change. The three things that worry me and leave me feeling vulnerable - virus, violence, and catastrophe – all three hit me hard in one week, leaving me ... pensive.

It was one of Floyd’s attorneys who said, “The virus has forced us to look at the hard realities of our worlds. Locked in our houses with only our smart phones and big screens, it’s hard to look away.” Pensive.

“I can’t breathe” is what we hear people saying all over the world as they struggle with the virus, the violence, and the climate change. It is what Jesus struggled with on the Cross, until he breathed his last ... pensive.

The theology of the Cross calls us to join Jesus in making small moves against destruction, moves like getting vaccinated, resisting violence, observing Earth Day. Taking every little thing we see, speak, and do one pensive breath at a time.

So, take a deep breath.

Pentecost – and the Breath of the Spirit - is coming.

Pensively yours,

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

May 7 Kathy Maginot
May 9 Bekki Zaffke
May 10 Cliff Lantias
May 11 Jane Yanagida
May 12 Brian Burke
May 17 Gary Ward
May 21 Hunter Spangler
May 23 Bill Little
May 23 Jef Spangler
May 31 Mary Lou Kimoto



Baptismal Anniversaries

May 1 Kaimana Higa
May 18 Janet Riehle
May 26 Milla Hill

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



Church Council Meeting April 18, 2021

Highlights include:

- ⇒ Welcoming David Rosetter as the newest member of the Council.
- ⇒ Approval to begin the process of refinancing the Mission Investment Fund mortgage. Congregation approval will be requested once the details are worked out.
- ⇒ Designated \$3,000 to re-fence the area along Meheula Parkway to keep the keiki safe.
- ⇒ Approved Policies and Procedures for the Aloha Agape Community Garden. Pastor Keith has copies if you are interested.
- ⇒ Discussed the lighting in the courtyard. We are waiting for the lights to arrive.
- ⇒ Agreed to replace the screen doors on the parsonage and the apartment at a cost of approximately \$500.

Next Council meeting: May 16 @ 2:30pm.

The Power of Prayer



We have “resurrected” the CLC Prayer Chain. If you or someone you know 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.

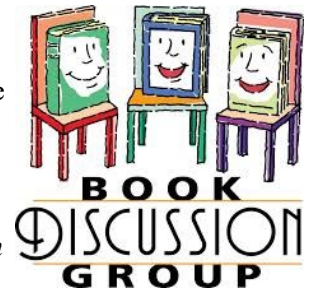
Graduates?

Do you have a child (or are you yourself) graduating from high school, college, or grad school? We would like to acknowledge these achievements in some manner in the next couple of months. Because this has been such a strange school year, we wanted to check with all of you so we don't miss anyone. Please send the name(s) of the grad(s) to the office at office@clcmililani.org as soon as you can. Mahalo for your help in identifying these milestones.



Daytime Book Discussion Group

There has been a suggestion that we start a daytime book discussion group. We would start with *Dear Church: a love letter from a black preacher to the whitest denomination in the US* by Lenny Duncan. If you would be interested in participating in this group, please contact Pastor Keith (808-281-1050 or pastor@clcmililani.org).



Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday is May 23. This is the day we celebrate the birthday of the church. Be sure to wear **RED**, in person or on line.



We received word that Mitzi Ludwig died this week. Mitzi is Linda Kohlstaedt's mother. Please keep Linda, Bill, Alex, and all of Mitzi's family and friends in your prayers.



Rest eternal grant to her and may light perpetual shine upon her.

amazonsmile

Now on Your Mobile Phone Too

Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Christ Lutheran Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to CLC. How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Christ Lutheran Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

Aloha Agape Garden Up-date

We have begun taking names for reservations of spaces in our community garden. The cost is \$60/year to help defray the cost of water. Copies of the Policies and Procedures governing the Garden are available from Pastor Keith if you are interested or would like to reserve a space.



IHS Outreach

Our next IHS outreach will happen on Saturday, June 5. To sign up to help, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-clcjune> or speak with Amanda Spangler at 808-728-9156.



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

MAY 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Pacifica Synod Assembly
2 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Healing Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 2:30 pm Church Council Zoom mtg	17	18	19	20	21 Newsletter Deadline	22 3 pm Melin Drive-thru Graduation
23 Pentecost Sunday Wear Red! 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	24	25	26	27 10 am Preschool Grad.	28	29
30 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	31 Memorial Day					

Cell Tower Progress

With the poles in the ground and the equipment mounted to the top of the tower, it was time to camouflage the entire “tree.” The photos below show how it was done. There are more pictures of the entire tower installation process, as well as a few videos, on our Facebook page at facebook.com/clcmililani. Be sure to check them out.

Photos by Pastor Keith and Carolyn Koehler





“Because of the empty tomb, we have peace. Because of His resurrection, we can have peace during even the most troubling of times because we know He is in control of all that happens in the world.” -Paul Chappell



CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

Thank God for church ladies (and men?) with computers. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services (these have been around a while but humor in the time of a pandemic is always welcome). This is a partial list. The first group was in the August 2020 newsletter.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours ."



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



May Worship

We continue to celebrate the Easter season of the church calendar through May 9.

Ascension is Thursday, May 13, and will be celebrated on Sunday, May 16.

Pentecost Sunday, also celebrated as the birthday of the church, is Sunday May 23.

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.

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
Now on Instagram
Tweet Me @ Pr_Keith