

March 2020

Together We Are The Church

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

Aloha Kakou,

What a week. Kauai Council member arrested for being part of a drug trafficking ring. Mixed messages from the federal government on the novel corona virus. The stock market “correcting.” Several Catholic dioceses declaring bankruptcy over clergy sexual abuse lawsuits. And the stabbings at Mililani High School.

Now, it’s Lent – after the light of Epiphany, we look for God in the darkness of this contemplative season. Jesus is on his way to the dark Cross – to conspiracy, betrayal, torture and death. “And at noon darkness covered the land.” He was buried in a dark cave. God raised him before dawn, in the dark.

The theme of our biblical faith is that God comes to us where we are. And where we are is in the dark void of sin, death and evil. Actually, I was a bit misleading when I wrote above “we look for God in the darkness” – Rather it is God in Christ who seeks us out. That is the direction of salvation – from God to us through the Spirit of Jesus.

In this Lenten Season, stop what you’re doing, stop looking elsewhere. Instead pause in the dark and silence and look around you, look close-by. God is there. Open your eyes and see that God is here in the darkness, comforting, encouraging, standing with.

A Blessed Lent to you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pr Keith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Pr Keith

CLC Recognized for Public Welcoming Statement

Mililani Hawaii, January 26, 2020

Christ Lutheran Church has been recognized by Reconciling Works (formerly Lutherans Concerned/North America) as the most recent Reconciling in Christ congregation in Hawaii. This recognition comes after the congregation officially adopted a public statement of welcome for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. The statement reads as follows,

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.

The Reconciling in Christ recognition means that the congregation will be listed on a roster of congregations, organizations and synods in the United States and Canada, which publicly welcome members of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Aubrey Thonvold, Executive Director of ReconcilingWorks, said "We welcome Christ Lutheran Church of Mililani, Hawaii to the Reconciling in Christ family. It is with love we are called to welcome all God's children into our congregations, communities, and our world. We thank Christ Lutheran for being an active member working for reconciliation and growth within the church so people of all sexual orientations and gender identities can share a lived experience of love, welcome, and family."

Reconciling Works is a Christian ministry affirming God's love for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Reconciling in Christ is a program of Reconciling Works.



A Word About the Corona Virus and Church

As a former financial advisor and executive director of several social service organizations that dealt with particularly nasty viruses, let me share a word about what is going on and ways to stay safe.

A review of our practices at church, especially around communion leads me to think we are doing pretty well when it comes to hygiene and virus transmission risk. As one health specialist recently said, "If we just take basic precautions, we can get (keep) this under control."

Hand sanitizers have been de rigueur around here for years. Please keep using them enthusiastically.

Here's a few other things to note:

- If you're sick, stay home! We love you. Jesus loves you. But your viruses don't love us.
- Come back when you feel mo bettah!
- Wash your hands for twenty seconds (sing the ABCs and when you're done singing, rinse and dry).
- We open the sliding walls to let the fresh air blow away the germs, bacteria and viruses, so bring a sweater!
- It's okay to hug lightly or just wave at the sharing of the peace.
- After handshakes and fist bumps, wash your hands before touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Wine kills lots of viruses.
- We have online sermon recordings that we are beta-testing. Stay tuned for more.
- Don't worry about the stock market correction – buy low, sell high!

Blessings,

Pr Keith

Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

01 Joel Sikkink
03 Lisa Yanagida
04 Frank Vidmar
05 Dale Koenig
13 Henry Zaffke
17 Steve Peterson
17 Carol Larson (in memory)
19 Kathy Jans
20 Guirong Xu-Peterson
30 Judy Kaupp



Baptismal Anniversaries

14 Adam Burke
18 Michael Walley

Wedding Anniversaries

07 Gary & Eileen Ward
19 Steve & Giu Rong Peterson

We hope you can join us during this lent season as we get together on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. for our traditional pot-luck soup suppers and 7 p.m. for Bible study.



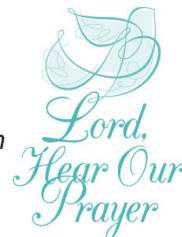
We pray for...

Good health to Eric, Rose, George, & Mari.

We pray for those who are poor and unemployed, those who seek refuge, those who suffer from addiction, and all who are sick.

Grant rest and peace to our faithful veterans, and give wisdom and courage to government officials who lead, serve, and protect.

Give us joy in knowing that our Redeemer lives, and that we will be united with the faithful in a resurrection like his.



MARCH 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|---------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 7am Contemplative Service w/communion 10am Communion Worship Service w/Keiki Church | 2 | 3 7:30pm Choir | 4 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Bible Study | 5 6:30pm Catechism | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Prayers of Healing 7am Contemplative Service w/communion 10am Communion Worship Service w/Keiki Church | 9 | 10 | 11 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Bible Study | 12 6:30pm Catechism | 13 | 14 1pm Council Retreat |
| 15 7am Contemplative Service w/communion 10am Communion Worship Service w/Keiki Church | 16 | 17 | 18 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Bible Study | 19 6:30pm Catechism | 20 4:30pm Council Meeting | 21 |
| 22 7am Contemplative Healing Service 10am Healing Service w/Communion & Keiki Church | 23 | 24 7:30pm Choir | 25 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Bible Study | 26 Prince Kuhio Day 6:30pm Catechism | 27 Newsletter Deadline | 28 |
| 29 7am Contemplative Service w/communion 10am Communion Worship Service w/Keiki Church | 30 | 31 7:30pm Choir | | | | |



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



Sunday Worship

7:00 a.m.

Contemplative Communion Service

10:00 a.m.

Service of Holy Communion

And Keiki Church

with children's message

Nursery care also available.

Healing Service - 2nd Sundays

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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