

#### Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

June, 2021

Aloha Kakou,

What a joy it is to be seeing more of you in person at worship! For some of us it's been over a year. Not every Sunday and not every week, but St Mother's Day and the Sundays following brought more of you out of your homes and into the church sanctuary – or at least onto the surrounding lanai.

Remember, "joy" means "life, love, and creativity even in the midst of tragedy." This past year I have seen and heard of persistent life in the midst of unfathomable death, of gracious and self-sacrificial love in the midst of burgeoning hatred, and of incredible creativity in a world that was stuck.

One didn't need to go far to find that joy. It is here at Christ Lutheran Church ... in, with, under, and around all of you, whether in-person or online or on the phone. People tending to the lawn, fixing things around the campus. The Altar Guild keeping all things worshipful clean and at the ready. The AV/IT peeps keeping us open for worship even when closed. Musicians and pianists sharing their gifts. Lectors and Assisting Ministers braving the risks of in-person and the challenges of online. Our Office Manager, keeping us (me!) organized. Our tellers keeping our offerings in order. Our Prayer Chain people lifting those in need up to God for healing. Our gardeners growing things.

I am deeply grateful to God for all that you say and do – for all that you are, for the joy your have brought in these difficult times.

As vaccinations numbers go up, I also give thanks to God. Seeing the infection numbers drop at the same time gives me hope that we will get through this and begin to shift our crosses to address all of the issues that the pandemic has laid bare – the racism and sexism, the health and wealth disparities, the anxiety and authoritarianism.

It will be confusing at times. "Should I be wearing a mask here or not?" "How close can we get?" "What about shaking hands, hugging?" "When can we sing again?" "What about nurseries and Keiki Church?"

"Stay tuned" is what I have been saying. Things will shift. Public health like the pandemic itself is a moving target. We are going to go slowly and cautiously ... safely. But go we shall as the science reveals.

We are going to do our God-given best to keep tragedy to a minimum while maximizing life, love, and creativity. So that, in the end, we can sing together – "And they lived joyfully ever after!"

Blessings,

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.



#### Church Council Meeting May 16, 2021

#### Highlights include:

- Announcement that the new lights are up around the lanai
- Report on the Aloha Agape Community Garden planting has begun and things are sprouting in the 8-9 beds that have been purchased
- Discussions were held about the nursery, youth, Sunday School, and refinancing the mortgage
- We have applied for forgiveness of our PPP loan (note: Pastor announced later that the forgiveness has been granted)

Next Council meeting: June 13 @ 1 pm in person at the church!



# Celebrations - Blessings to All of You



#### Happy Birthday

June 7 Trenton Riehle

June 13 John Yanaaida June 15 John Clere

June 20 Kanani Lanias

June 20 Amanda Walley

June 23 Mattie Sikkink

June 26 Machell Vonberg

June 27 Logan Stanford

June 28 Sue Weaver

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

#### Baptismal Anniversaries

Jia Spangler June 2

June 4 Marilynn 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 Bud & Berta Jenkins

June 13 Bill & Sally Little

June 16 Janet & Patrick Riehle

June 26 Joe & Bev Murphy

#### 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.







Happy PRIDE! ReconcilingWorks is excited to celebrate the diversity of the LGBTQIA+community with you this PRIDE season!

You are invited to ReconcilingWorks' **2021 Virtual PRIDE**! Between now and the end of June there will be fun virtual events and opportunities posted each week including raffle drawings, Reconciling in Christ video stories, special social media events, and more!

You can join in the fun at www.ReconcilingWorks.org/VirtualPRIDE2021.



## JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 IHS Outreach
6 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	7	8	9 Emmanuel 9 remembrance	10	11 Kamehameha Day	12
13 Healing Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation  1pm Council Meeting in Person at church	14	15	16	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 Juneteenth
20 Fathers Day 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 8 am In-person Worship 11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	28	29	30			

#### Cell Tower Progress

And the final piece is putting a fence around the tree/tower to hide all the equipment (and a good looking fence it is). 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







#### That Unsightly Trash Enclosure

Remember that unsightly concrete trash enclosure at the edge of the entrance to the parking lot? It invited graffiti, people urinating, dirt collecting, and all manner of disgusting things. We included its removal in our contract for building the cell tower. So on May 5 the demolition began. Pastor Keith, Rhiannon (preschool director), and Justice (Kidney Friends staff) were invited to lend a hand with hammers and the jackhammer. They were all very excited to help make this eye-sore go away.

Photos by Pastor Keith







#### Aloha Agape Garden Up-date

23% of the spaces in our community garden have already been reserved. Plants have been planted and are growing. Soon we will be able to finish the last of the boxes. 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. Shown below is Pastor Keith helping one of our gardeners plant vegetables in her space.

Photos by Christina Enoka







#### Father's Day Prayer

Lord, thank you for all fathers.

For the new ones, who endure sleepless nights with infants in arms.

For the busy ones, who juggle the pressures of home and family life.

For the steadfast ones, who nurture and care for our special vulnerable children.

For the patient ones, who always seek to forgive and engage with their pre-teens.

For the persistent ones, who cleverly find new ways to connect with their mini-adults.

For the father uncles, who step in to cradle and care for nieces and nephews.

For all granddads, who love and support their precious grandchildren.

For the foster dads that are called to gather and cover the fragile ones.

For the Sunday dads who care for our children and lead them in faith.

For the dads who give far beyond their own resources, who overcome disability to cherish and love.

Thank you Lord for all our beautiful fathers. Help us to support them and keep them in our prayers. May you bless them now and always. Amen.

(a Father's Day prayer from www.lords-prayer-words.com)





#### June Worship

## 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

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