



Together We Are The Church

April, 2023

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

April, 2023

Aloha Kakou,

As I type this newsletter article, I am hearing that yet again someone is using my name, texting some of you, asking if you can do me a favor and buy a gift card for a person in dire straits. First, I would never text you “asking you to do me a favor.” That language is the language of a scam. Second, I would never ask you to make a financial transaction, especially buying a gift card, and then, text me the gift card number. That is the work of a scammer.

Lastly, always check the phone number, especially the area code. I do not have any mainland numbers on my phone. Haven’t since I moved here almost eighteen years ago. I am 808 all the way.

That being said, a few of us noted how fast we whizzed through Lent this year. Our Lenten Soup Supper & Bible Study went well, with just the right number of people to make for good eating and group discussion. Sunday morning worship just seemed to flow.

Now, as we head toward Palm Sunday and Holy Week, I want to remind us all that here is the central story of our faith – Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem, his betrayal and arrest, torture and execution. This is what his birth, ministry, and teachings all lead up to – the Cross

To love ourselves and our neighbors is no easy thing. Feeding, healing, forgiving those most in need, which is what Jesus did, is as much an act of justice as one of charity and kindness. In ministering to the most marginalized, Jesus challenged The Game – the worldview of the rich and powerful. Those “small moves against destruction” can get us all in a lot of trouble, even a cross of our own.

Resurrection vindicates Jesus’ birth, ministry and death as the way of life. I think about that as I ponder the destructive acts of gun violence, racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia spinning around our world, even here in Hawaii. What trouble can I get into as I try to follow Jesus on the Way of the Cross? What does resurrection look like from a cross?

I’ll get back to you on that one, but first I gotta text someone and ask them to do me a favor

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.*



Spring Hukilau Assembly Conference

Mark your calendars, the spring assembly for the Hukilau Conference will be held on **Saturday, April 22nd from 11:00am to 3:00pm** at St. John Lutheran Church in Kailua.

All are welcome to attend this gathering which includes preparing for the Synod assembly as well as sharing ways in which we can be stewards of God's creation.

Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

Happy Birthday

April 3	Anuheia Lania
April 5	Carrie Nelson
April 8	Paulette Collins
April 12	Neil Wiedemann
April 19	Eli Vonberg
April 20	Gayle Kriese
April 21	Marilynn Bisquera
April 22	Tom Poole
April 23	Meadow Spangler
April 25	Charlotte Vonberg
April 26	Nolan Acosta
	Joel Hamguchi
April 29	ZhiQiang Zhou
April 30	Linda Kohlstaedt

Wedding Anniversaries

April 21	Jim & Christy Sondall
April 23	Whitney & Bryan DePowell

Baptismal Anniversaries

April 1	Barbara Burke
	Eric Melin
April 2	Tina Cox
April 7	Hagen Zaffke
April 9	Ethan Chong
April 12	Bryan DePowell
April 13	Linda Santos
April 19	Henry Zaffke
April 23	Guirong Xu-Peterson
April 26	Joel Hamaguchi

**Our Lord has written
the promise of
resurrection, not in
books alone, but in
every leaf in springtime.**

Martin Luther



As we approach March 31, many people are preparing to recognize Transgender Day of Visibility, an international day to celebrate the contributions of transgender people and raise awareness about the deadly injustices they face.

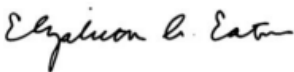
As bishop of this church, I am concerned that the rights of transgender and nonbinary Americans have been targeted all over this nation. Nearly 400 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills were introduced across the United States in 2022, most of them targeting trans youth. That is twice the number from 2021 and almost eight times the total from 2020. The language in many of these bills attacks the humanity of trans and nonbinary people, often erasing the dignity that should be afforded to everyone.

While members of our church hold various convictions regarding gender, the teaching of our church supports legislation and policies to protect every person's human dignity and civil rights. (Human Sexuality, p. 19) As Christians we believe every human being is created in God's image, and we must honor and celebrate God's creation. Our church teaches that we affirm transgender and nonbinary siblings as God's children, who are loved unconditionally. Our social statement *Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action* (2019) also declares that this church commits itself to "advocate for and support laws, policies, and practices that respect diverse bodies rather than discriminating against, objectifying, or devaluing them" (p. 60).

I urge us, as people of faith, to love our neighbors, care for the vulnerable and marginalized, and work for justice and equality. We may have differing opinions on "matters related to sexual orientation and gender identity," (FSJ, p. 61) but we must always uphold the dignity and humanity of everyone. These disagreements do not allow us to accept actions that dehumanize, discriminate against or objectify any individual or group.

We must stand together, dear church, faithfully advocating for the full humanity and dignity of all people. Let us recognize and affirm the humanity of our transgender and nonbinary siblings. Let us advocate for their dignity. Let us continue to be guided by God's love and compassion as we seek justice and equality for everyone.

In Christ,



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



APRIL, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** Not a CLC Event: Please contact Al Anon or AA for further information.						1 Morning Prayer IHS Ministry
2 Palm Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 9 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	3 Morning Prayer HOLY	4 Morning Prayer WEEK	5 Morning Prayer	6 Morning Prayer Maundy Thursday 7:00pm	7 Morning Prayer Prayer Vigil 6:30am-6:30pm Good Friday 7:00pm	8 Morning Prayer Easter Vigil 7:00pm
9 Easter Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 9 am Keiki Church 9:15am Easter Sun Brunch 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	10 Morning Prayer	11 Morning Prayer	12 Morning Prayer	13 Morning Prayer Confirmation Class 7:00pm	14 Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	15 Morning Prayer
16 2nd Sun of Easter **Healing Sunday 8 am In-person Worship 9 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	17 Morning Prayer	18 Morning Prayer	19 Morning Prayer	20 Morning Prayer Confirmation Class 7:00pm	21 Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm *AA 7:30pm	22 Morning Prayer
23 3rd Sun of Easter 8 am In-person Worship 9 am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation	24 Morning Prayer	25 Morning Prayer	26 Morning Prayer	27 Morning Prayer Confirmation Class 7:00pm	28 Morning Prayer *Al-Anon 7:30 pm * AA 7:30pm	29 Morning Prayer
30 4th Sun of Easter 8 am In-person Worship 9am Keiki Church 10 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation 1:30pm Church. Council						



Easter Sunday Brunch

The next **Sunday Brunch** will take place on **Easter Sunday, April 9th** 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.

ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL

Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 7th, 6:30 AM - 6:30 PM in the CLC Sanctuary. You are invited to sign up and come to spend 1/2 hour or longer in quiet prayer. Prayer resources will be available. Sign up on the CLC information table clipboards, or call 623-6236 Eileen Ward, email: eileenward@mac.com



Easter Flowers

Lilies, orchids, or other flowers to festoon our sanctuary for our Easter Worship services, may be brought to the church before the Maundy Thursday or Good Friday services. You may also bring them to the office any time between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm on Friday, April 7th. Please call first as the office doors are usually locked when school is not in session.

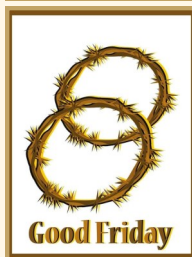
Holy Week Worship Schedule



Palm Sunday- Sunday, April 2nd
8:00 am & 10:00 am
Worship Services



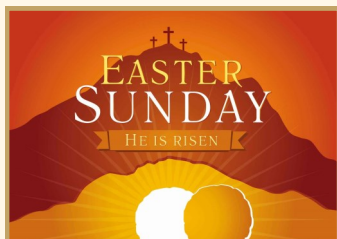
Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 6th
7:00 pm Worship Service with Communion



Good Friday- Friday, April 7th
7:00 pm Worship Service



Holy Saturday Easter Vigil
Saturday, April 8th
7:00pm Worship Service



Easter Sunday- Sunday, April 9th
8:00am & 10:00am
Worship Services
Easter Potluck Brunch at 9:15am



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

April Worship

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday
8 am and 10 am

Thursday, April 6
7 pm - Maundy Thursday service

Friday, April 7
7 pm - Good Friday service

Holy Saturday, April 8
7 pm - Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 9
Easter Sunday
8 am and 10 am

Easter Potluck Brunch– 9:15am

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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