



Together We Are The Church

February 2021

Christ Lutheran Church Newsletter

February 2021

Aloha Kakou,

I'm writing this on or near the day I began serving Christ Lutheran Church in 2013. I think that makes it eight years with you (I had to count on my fingers, which is kind of scary). That's the longest I've stayed in any job, calling, or ministry.

And I'm glad I'm here ... or still here as the case may be. Especially since it seems that people in their sixties – like me – are dying of COVID-19 way too often. With only the occasional trip to the grocery store or now rarer trip to the doctor's office (my ear is all healed up), I have been for the last few months pretty much restricting my in-person interactions to whatever is happening on the CLC campus. That includes Rainbow Preschool, the Kidney Foundation of Hawaii, and face-to-face CLC interactions, such as in-person worship on Sunday mornings.

It's not a bad life for an older, single guy. I've had just over two acres to wander about on. At times it's hectic and busy, other times calm and quiet. I've been surprised at how much of my ministry is now happening via phone, text, and email. Not to mention Zoom, Skype, and Facebook.

I think for this next year I'm going to be leaning into that form of ministry even more. In 2020 – like many of you, I suspect – I indulged in electronic/social media as a stopgap until we were able to safely come back together. Masks, distancing, mitigating drugs, a cure, or vaccines would cause the coronavirus to subside. Or so we thought.

We know better now. With people reaching a breaking point with masking and distancing, with vaccinations proving not to be a quick fix, and with more virulent and easier-to-catch variants arising among us, it is going to be a while before things “get back to normal.” If ever.

So, I'm going to be focusing much of my ministry on staying in contact with you via electronic/social media. I will talk story with you, pray with you, even commune with you via media. I want to lean into worship with you, too, asking how we might make it a better experience for you. What about singing? Assisting ministers and lectors? What about sharing music via Zoom? What about other times for worship besides Sunday morning?

We need to talk about outreach and evangelism, stewardship and discipleship, property and community, too. I've some ideas but if you have any thoughts on these matters, on what is essential and what matters most, let me know. I'm all ears. And mittens.

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.*



Celebrations - Blessings to All of You

Happy Birthday

Feb 4 Bryan DePowell
Feb 5 Bill Belcher
Feb 11 Ethan Chong
Feb 12 Carolyn Koehler
Feb 13 Emily Stanford
Feb 15 Sally Kino
Feb 20 Noah McMann
Feb 21 Keene Rosetter
Feb 28 Barbara Burke



Baptismal Anniversaries

Feb 2 Ellie Stanford

Wedding Anniversaries

Feb 10 Russ & Sally Kino

Jan 27 DeAnn & Nelson Acosta
(whom we missed last month)

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

'Ohana Opportunities

Even though we continue the need to stay safe from the COVID-19 virus and can't meet in large groups at church, there are ways for you to help CLC support each other and reach out to those less fortunate.

One of those ways is to support Hunter Spangler's Community Garden Project (explained below). Another is to help out with our outreach to IHS (see next page).

Another is to volunteer to help with the up-dating of the rental apartment. Many people have already been working on this (painting, cleaning, flooring, installing new cabinets, etc) but there may still be things that need to be done to get it ready for renting again. Contact Steve Peterson (561-1848; stevedp1953@outlook.com) or Bud Jenkins (349-1650; jenkinsr001@hawaii.rr.com) to find out how you can help.

Hunter Spangler's

Community Garden Project



Hunter Spangler, as his Eagle Scout Project, will be building a community garden on the lawn between the parking lot and the parsonage. This project will help alleviate the food insecurity of our neighbors as well as provide a small income for CLC. Hunter has laid out the plans and some materials have already been purchased thanks to a Pivot Grant received for this purpose and building will begin according to Hunter's schedule shown below. Everyone is welcome to come and help.

Location:

Christ Lutheran Church,
95-1361 Meheula Pkwy, Mililani HI

Dates:

February 20, 9:00am-4:00pm
February 21, 1:00pm-4:00pm
February 27, 9:00am-4:00pm
February 28, 1:00pm-4:00pm



*Lunch will be provided to everyone who attends on the 20th and 27th.

*If you have any of the following tools, please bring them to support my project: **Drills, Hammers, Wheelbarrows, Sledgehammers, and Gloves.**

IHS Outreach



Our next serving date for IHS is Saturday, February 6. If you would like to help out with cooking, serving, or providing cookies, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4EA9AA28A5FE3-clcfebruary> If you do not know how to sign up or do not have internet access or would like more information, please call Amanda Spangler at 808-728-9156.



Church Council Meeting January 17, 2021

Highlights include:

- ◆ A report that construction of the community garden is slated to begin mid-February
- ◆ Responses to the Stewardship letter that was sent out in December have been positive
- ◆ It was decided to cancel the current property management contract and hire a new management company when the renovations are complete
- ◆ Bud Jenkins and Bekki Zaffke have been nominated to represent CLC at the Synod Assembly to be held on line on May 1.

Next Council meeting: February 21 @ 2:30pm.

Annual Meeting Up-date

Because this newsletter will be issued prior to the Semi-Annual Congregation meeting on January 31, a summary of that meeting will be included in the March newsletter.

Mahalo Nui Loa

To... **Whitney DePowell, Sarah Chong, Sena Norton, and Eli Vonberg** for volunteering to serve as assisting ministers for our Sunday services.

To... our faithful tellers (those who count the offerings every week) **DeAnn Acosta, Ele Clere, Pua Good, Chieko Higuchi, Dale & Tom Koenig, Kathy Maginot, and especially Mary Lou Kimoto** who trains, organizes, and schedules the group and keeps them all on their toes.

To... **Paul Herr, Russ Kino and Eli Vonberg** who have faithfully come every week to mow the yards and take care of our grounds. If you think our property looks good, be sure to thank them.



FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Healing Sunday <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation</i>	15 Presidents' Day	16	17 Ash Wednesday	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20
21 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation</i> <i>2:30 pm Church Council Zoom mtg</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 <i>8 am In-person Worship</i> <i>11 am In-person Worship & by Zoom invitation</i>						

Ash Wednesday Services



We've been working on what to do for Lent. If you remember, last year we observed Ash Wednesday on February 26th. I think we then had one or two Lenten soup suppers and Bible studies before we all went into lockdown. Or had we abandoned the suppers by then? I truly cannot recall. It seems so long ago.

This year Ash Wednesday is on February 17th and Easter will be on Sunday, April 4th. Because of the importance of this "holy-day," we will be having In-person worship along with Zoom. We are going to bump up the time to 6:00pm, so that it won't be too late of an evening for those of you wishing to attend in-person.

As in other years the service will be simple, quiet and contemplative, with no music. Because of the pandemic conditions we will not be "imposing" ashes on our foreheads. Each worshipper dipping their own fingers into a bowl of ashes is not considered any more hygienic than intinction at communion, so that is not recommended, either. Nor does the most ancient ritual of flinging ashes into the air sound safe in these coronaviral times.

So, we shall have an Imposition of Ashes as part of the liturgy, but it will be much toned down. And there will be communion both in-person and online.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Blessings to you and yours as we enter into a time of contemplation and reflection.

Pr Keith

PS – Kokua Hui will resume on the Wednesdays in Lent. We will once again reflect on scripture by means of the three questions of the Lectio Divina. Stay tuned!

PKW



Dear Lord, As we enter this Solemn and Holy Season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent. Even though we may no longer wear sackcloth and ashes, we do seek to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of Your Love for us as You humbled Yourself and gave Your Life on the Cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with You. AMEN.

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.

We have recently up-dated the parish directory. If you would like a copy (either by email or snail mail), please contact the office and we will get one to you.





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



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

February 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.

Church Office:

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