



“The Messenger of Love”

# Ka Elele Aloha

January 2009

Volume 13 Issue 1

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians  
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## The Climate Project Slideshow Presentation January 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>



In October of 2008, Charlene Hosenfeld became one of 1200 Americans personally trained by Nobel Laureate and former Vice President Al Gore to spread the message about the challenges of, and the solutions to, the climate crisis. She will deliver an educational slideshow on climate change during what is usually Adult Study time at CCU on two consecutive Sundays, January 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, at 8:15 a.m. Everyone (including the youth of our church) is invited.

Charlene recently took part in The Climate Project’s (TCP) first ever faith-based training session, which resulted in the training of 135 presenters. This session emphasized speaking to people of faith about the climate crisis. This latest group of trainees represents 37 states and numerous faiths.

Presenters took part in an intensive training session, focused on climate change and potential solutions. Volunteers received training to become effective presenters of a version of Mr. Gore’s slideshow, which was the basis of his best-selling book and the Academy Award-winning documentary film *An Inconvenient Truth*.

“People of faith are vital to the effort to combat the climate crisis and represent all walks of life,” said Gore. “This new group of trainees is absolutely amazing. I am certain that they will have a tremendous impact as they return home to their congregations and communities all across the United States.”

TCP, a nonprofit organization based in Nashville, Tennessee, began operations in June 2006 with the mission of increasing public

## Fiona’s Parting Note



Dear Friends,

Turning one’s face to the long journey home, and all that awaits one there, is probably not conducive to a balanced review of the time spent away. It has been a long time, yet I have enjoyed each step of the way, and I know over the coming weeks and months I shall process in fits and starts all that has taken place.

But what I can say at this stage is what a joy it has been for me to be among you again and to know the warmth of your welcome and your island hospitality. The experiences I have shared with you have been very special, from feeling free enough to offer an opinion on the Christmas decor (unsolicited) on my first Saturday in Kailua, through the overnight stay “upstairs” during family Promise Week, and the great Scottish afternoon, to the Christmas Eve service, when if I wasn’t to be at home, could have found myself in no finer company.

I have rediscovered all the ways in which Hawai’i and Orkney differ (mainly the temperature, now that I have seen that you too know about rain and wind), but more importantly all the ways in which we share the life of a small faith community in trying to live out our calling as Christ’s people. I have been encouraged, uplifted, challenged, and comforted in your company. Thank you for allowing me to travel a short way along that journey of discovery with you and for your gracious accompaniment on my journey.

I trust that some of our paths may cross again, and shall be waiting to hear word of the next Hawai’ian visitors to Stromness—!

### Sponsored by CCU

## Spiritual Journey Book Club

Wed., Jan. 7, 2009  
7 pm

at home of  
Estelle Codier

discussing  
**Girl Meets God**  
by Lauren F. Winner

#### Facilitators:

Dr. Leilani Madison,  
HPU English Professor  
Dr. Estelle Codier,  
UH Nursing School Professor

## The Climate Project Slide Show Presentation January 18 and 25

Continued from Page 1



awareness of the climate crisis at a grassroots level in the United States and abroad. By April 2007, 1000 volunteers from throughout the U.S. had been trained by Gore himself to educate members of the public about climate change. They have now delivered more than 20,000 presentations and reached a combined audience of 2 million people.

In addition, TCP initiatives have resulted in the training of hundreds of equally committed individuals in Australia, Canada, India, Spain, and the UK. TCP's 2500 presenters worldwide have reached a total audience of more than 4 million.

## A Note from Fiona—Continued

Continued from Page 1

have had some intimations of intention and shall hold you to them! It would be a real pleasure to show some of you our beautiful island home.

With every blessing and all good wishes for 2009 as it unfolds, and may God be with you all through every season.

Yours with Aloha,

Fiona



## January CCU Event Schedule:

Key: K = Kitchen L = Lanai PS = Pastor's Study S = Sanctuary B3=upstairs classroom

1/3, 8am	Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club	
1/4, 10am (S)	Worship (*Wendy Tajima guest preaching)	
1/7, 7pm	Spiritual Journey Book Club	→
1/8, 6:30 & 7:30	Chancel Ringer & Chancel Choir rehearsals, respectively	
1/10, 9am (S)	De-greening of Sanctuary	
1/10, 10:30am	Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch @ Cinnamon's Restaurant in Kailua	
11/8, 7pm (S)	Taizé-style worship	
1/14, 7pm	Stated Council Meeting	
1/18 & 25, 8:15am (S)	Adult Study—The Climate Project Slideshow Presentation (see class description, Page 1)	
1/30	Seagull's New Wing Open House—CCUers invited (exact time to be announced)	
1/31	Presbytery of the Pacific meets @ First Presbyterian Church of Inglewood	

Meeting of  
Spiritual Journey Book Club  
Wed., Jan. 7, 7 pm  
home of Estelle Codier  
discussing Girl Meets God

\*Wendy Tajima is Associate Dean of Enrollment for San Francisco Theological Seminary. For ten years she worked with battered women and, after earning her MBA, she joined Apple Computer. She was a manager in Apple's Evangelism Department when she entered seminary, receiving her M. Div. from SFTS in 1997. An ordained PC (USA) Minister of the Word and Sacrament and member of Pacific Presbytery, Wendy served as pastor, interim pastor, and Associate Conference Minister with the Hawai'i Conference United Church of Christ from 1997 to 2007.

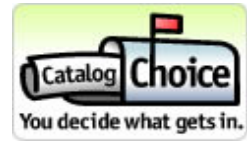


## Save 53 Million Trees

Start the New Year with an easy and green action. You can control some of what comes into your mailbox by choosing only the catalogs you want to receive. You can stop the mailings of catalogs you don't want or use, that clutter your mailbox, waste energy, increase carbon emissions, contribute to landfill overload and use up trees. According to the December 2008/January 2009 *Mother Earth News*, 19 billion catalogs are mailed each year— using 53 million trees.

Call the customer service number on the unwanted catalogs and request that your name be removed from their mailing list. Or, if you are receiving a larger

amount of catalogs, use the online service of Catalog Choice. Go to their website at [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org). Catalog Choice is a project of the Ecology Center in Berkeley, California, and is endorsed by reputable nonprofit organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation and the Natural Resources Defense Council.



Save up a pile of unwanted catalogs, access the website, and take a small green step. Register your name and address, and then choose which catalogs you want to stop. Click on "Find your catalog," then either search by specific catalog or browse their alphabetized list. Some companies allow the option of a reduced number of catalogs without entirely stopping their mailings.

### **Remember....every action matters.**

Reminder: I will be offering The Climate Project Slideshow presentations in the sanctuary before church services on the last two Sundays in January at 8:15 a.m. I hope to see you there.



## **Memories**

By Rosemary Allen

Because I missed our recent Advent series of Sunday AM Adult Study, I asked John & Marian Heidel for a resumé—and of course they cheerfully obliged! Their sharing reminded me of the variety of Advent studies we've experienced through the years.

There were Advent studies based directly on the scriptures of the Nativity from Luke & Matthew—some with interpretations by contemporary authors & poets. I recall at least one study based on the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah to come.

Among my favorites were the musically-themed studies. We studied—and enjoyed—Handel's "Messiah," not only the music but also its history. Another was a fine study based on African-American spirituals arising from the Nativity as sung originally by field slaves in the south.

Another year we talked about the themes of traditional Advent calendars. In 2007 we watched & discussed the excellent movie, "The Nativity."

The international theme of our 2008 study brought participation by several CCUers. Bill Muench opened with a "debunking" of contemporary seasonal practices, pointing out several misconceptions. He also told of some of the historical

European bases for present-day traditions & also astronomical & astrological factors which now place the actual birth date of Jesus at 7 BC. The December 25th date was set by the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD.

Succeeding Sunday sessions told of Christmastime customs in different parts of the world. Paul Snipes told of African customs while Marian Heidel brought memories from her childhood in China. Paul Belanger remembered French-Canadian traditions from his boyhood on the Maine-Canadian border.

Fiona Lillie told of how Christmas is celebrated in the Orkney Islands of Scotland and ancient connections to the Norwegian explorers. Light and dark contrasts play a role (due to northern latitudes) in both Christmas & New Years and Christmas Eve service is always at midnight in Fiona's home church in Stromness.

The closing session brought Hawaiian and Samoan customs, following acceptance of Christianity here in the 1800s—told by Kalua Tataipu. Lauren Buck Medeiros brought the traditions of Micronesia, which begin with crafting of gifts as early as October & which are then delivered door-to-door in the community on Christmas day.

Advent 2009? Perhaps a Christmas "Classic" with interpretations for Christian study? It won't be all that long until next December!

***Saturday afternoon, 12/20:  
CCUers & The Caledonian Society  
Celebrate the Season!***

***Terrific piper entertainment!  
Great lecture by Fiona!  
Delightful dancing!  
Delicious eats!  
Outstanding participation!***

***Merry Christmas!***



**About Presbyterians  
and Disciples**

by Rosemary Allen

Our two "parent" denominations take many actions which impact CCU. Efforts for mission outreach is ongoing in both Disciples and Presbyterians USA with workarounds the world. During December we have again been reminded of support for these efforts through the special Christmas offerings—"Good News of Great Joy" (Presbyterians) and "God Has Done Great Things" (Disciples).

The preliminary report of these special offerings at CCU at newsletter date is \$1,322.21. However, late offerings are still being received.

My special thanks go to the "messengers" who brought news of mission activities to CCU on the Sundays of Advent. They are Beth Davidann, Scott Peters, & George Wyman—plus Marian Heidel & Jane Muench who organized the resources.

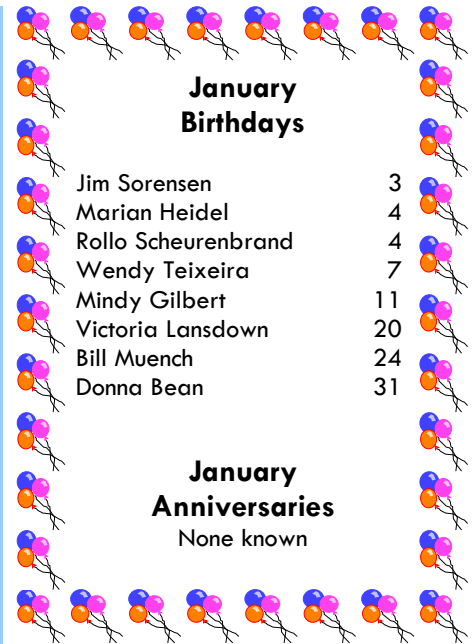
***Christ Church Uniting . . .  
providing practical support for  
social justice actions,  
community building  
& spiritual growth.***

**Child Safety Policy:** It is the intention of CCU to provide a safe space for children. Staff and lay leaders are screened and educated about child abuse in general and both Hawaii Law and CCU policies in particular regarding prevention and reporting of suspected abuse. A copy of the CCU Child Abuse Policy is available from the church office upon request.

## Lay & elder worship assignments for January 2009

If you are not able to fill your assignment, please try trading with someone and/or notify the church office.

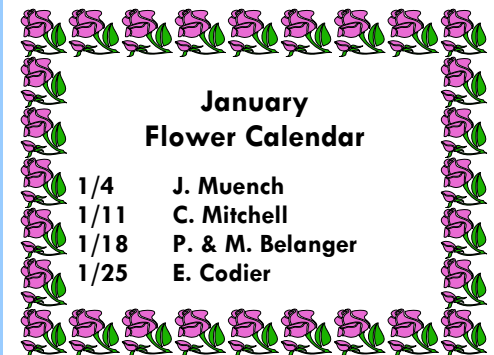
Date	Name	Duty
1/4	Wendy Tajima Wendy Teixeira, Paul Haring Corky Sorensen Buddy Summers Bill Muench Paul Belanger Bob Grantham Paul Belanger	Guest Preacher Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer Securing building after Sunday worship
1/11	Melissa Belanger, Loren Wilson TBA Rosemary Allen Wanda Nichols Rennie Renfroe Dianne Brookins Rennie Renfroe	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer Securing building after Sunday worship
1/18	Cathy Lyman, E.K. Whiting Paul Snipes Estelle Codier Wendy Teixeira Connie Mitchell Bob Grantham Bob Grantham	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer Securing building after Sunday worship
1/25	Jon & Eli Davidann Estelle Codier & Bill Muench Beth Davidann Susie Jannuzzi Temie Shade Paul Belanger Temie Shade	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer Securing building after Sunday worship



January Birthdays	
Jim Sorensen	3
Marian Heidel	4
Rollo Scheurenbrand	4
Wendy Teixeira	7
Mindy Gilbert	11
Victoria Lansdown	20
Bill Muench	24
Donna Bean	31

January Anniversaries	
None known	



January Flower Calendar	
1/4	J. Muench
1/11	C. Mitchell
1/18	P. & M. Belanger
1/25	E. Codier

**CCU is a creative community making a difference in social justice, community development and spiritual development.** We are currently engaged in a multi-year Revitalization Strategy. We are currently doing new work in three areas: Developing a culture of Personal Invitation (developing skills and tools in support of personal sharing of the way we experience and practice the Christian faith), Putting our Lamp on a Hill (creating a highly interactive web presence and developing a comprehensive public relations program), and Developing an Intriguing and Inviting Campus (repairing the leaky roof, developing the landscaping and signage, creating inviting exhibits to encourage our many weekday campus visitors to return for faith community activities.)

### Notices:

**Odia E. Howe, Jr.**, 88, of Lanikai, died November 18, 2008. Odia was a founding member of Christ Presbyterian Church and was a serving elder from February 1964 to February 1966. He was buried December 29th at Hawai'i State Veterans Cemetery.

**Mary L. Ralph**, 92, of Camarillo, California, died December 7, 2008. Mary was a member of Christ Presbyterian Church and subsequently Christ Church Uniting from August 1965 through June 1985. An obituary for Mary is posted on the Breezeway Bulletin Board.