



“The Messenger of Love”

Ka Elele Aloha

November 2008

Volume 12 Issue 10

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
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Pastor’s Note . . .

I should write something about Thanksgiving —it’s traditional.

But then, there are so many Other Things that want pastoral notice too. For example, on November 4th: who will it be—Truman or Dewey—and then what?

And The Pledge Campaign (all but completed—it was a wonderful evening last Saturday—but hardly finished, if you know what I mean.)

And for the next year at least, there’s the little matter of The Transition (of which I will only experience three months on the ground with you.)

Wasn’t it McCain who announced “Change is coming”? Indeed, it is.

So, I’m grateful to God for many things. For Estelle, the beloved partner. For CCU, the creative, ever evolving congregation. For the sense from God that not only the Presidential Election but my Personal Retirement as well are instances of God’s calling not only to solitary individuals but to all of us—rise up and follow!

Thanksgiving blessings and more later,

Buddy

Providing support for

- Spiritual growth
- Community building
- Social justice actions

Worship: Sundays 10 am

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CCU is a union congregation
of Disciples & Presbyterians

www.ccukailua.org

CCU BOOKMARKS
are available at the Greeters’ Podium . . . Share this beautiful, earth-friendly bookmark with your friends.

Sponsored by Christ Church Uniting

**1st gathering of
Spiritual Journey Book Club
November 5, 7 pm
at home of Estelle Codier
discussing
Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd**

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

RSVP your intention to attend to Leilani or Estelle

**November 29th
Saturday Morning, 9 am**

**9 am: “Green the Sanctuary” for our
December Scottish
Christmas Celebration**

**11:30 am: Greet Reverend
Fiona Lillie at an all-church
Luncheon Potluck -
please bring potluck dish to share**

Adult Church at Study-new series beginning 11/2, 8:30 am sharp—

SCIENCE AND RELIGION: PARTNERS IN THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH?

Learn how natural scientists & theologians have cooperated and clashed throughout history over important human issues like the nature of miracles, human evolution, and the big bang. Get advice from Saints and Scientists. This will be a video lecture series by Johns Hopkins University award winning History and Science Professor Lawrence Principe. Discussion will follow. *Facilitator: Paul Haring*

Save the date!

**Sun., Nov. 23, 4:00 pm
Community Sing Along
Handel's MESSIAH
at Christ Church Uniting**



**Come Sing! Come Listen!
Bring your friends!**

WCC sponsored

**All Community
Thanksgiving Eve
Service—
Kailua United
Methodist Church, 7 pm
featuring
The Windward Choral Society Choir**



November CCU Event Schedule:

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

- 11/1, 8am Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club
- 11/2, 8:30am (S) & succeeding Sundays Adult Study (see class description above)
- 11/2, 10am (S) & succeeding Sundays Worship
- 11/5, 7pm First meeting of Spiritual Journey Book Club
- 11/6,13,20, 7:30-8:15pm "Messiah" rehearsals
- 6:30 & 8:15pm (S) & succeeding Thursdays (not Thks'g) Chancel Ringer & Chancel Choir rehearsals, respectively
- 11/8, 10:30am Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch @ Cinnamon's Restaurant in Kailua
- 11/8, 7pm (S) Taizé-style worship
- 11/12, 7-9pm Stated Council Meeting
- 11/19, 7-8 Called Council Meeting; meet with CC (DOC) Co-Regional ministers—Susan Gonzales Dewey and Don Dewey
- 11/23, 4pm (S) Handel's "Messiah" presentation—Community welcome!
- 11/25, 11am December newsletter information submittal deadline
- 11/26, 7 pm WCC Thanksgiving Service @ Kailua Methodist Church, featuring Windward Choral Society Choir
- 11/29, 9am Greening of Sanctuary followed by Welcome Potluck for Rev. Fiona Lillie, December exchange pastor
- 11/30, 11:30am (S) Stated Congregational Meeting — elect officers, approve 2009 operating budget

First Meeting of
Spiritual Journey Book Club
Wed., Nov. 5, 7 pm
home of Estelle Codier
discussing Secret Life of Bees



Witness Commission . . .

CCU congregants select projects/ programs to give portions of CCU budgeted mission monies to—

CCU sends \$500 of Pres. C. (USA) basic mission funds to Michele and Terry Finseth for their work in Palestine/Israel (selected by Jean Tsuji)

Michele and Terry are facilitators for the Joining Hands for Justice Network of Palestine. The group is made up of faith-based organizations and NGS's (neighborhood government organizations). The Network "produces programs and activities that educate, advocate, and foster community economic empowerment." One of the concerns of the group is the destruction of Palestinian homes in the Occupied Territories. This makes some of the poorest families destitute and guarantees

REMEMBER: Anyone can add to the monies to be sent to the selected missionaries/projects/programs by making a contribution to CCU and noting on the check the particular project/program you would like to support.

Selected projects to date:

1. DOC—Bolenge Hospital—medical infrastructure, solar panels for electricity
2. PC(USA)—Pentecost Offering: targeting children's works
3. PC(USA)—Clean Water U
4. DOC—Academia del Pueblo (ADP) Program at Eastmont Community Center
5. PC(USA)—Missionary Dr. Magda Iskander and her Care With Love training program in Egypt for home health care providers.
6. PC(USA)—Missionaries Tim & Gloria Wheeler and their work with Heifer programs in Honduras
7. PC(USA)—Dr. Beverley Booth, helping United Mission to Nepal build organizations to perform ministries
8. PC(USA)—Michele & Terry Finseth, facilitators for the Joining Hands for Justice Network of Palestine

their suffering for years to come. The Finseths have expressed special concerns for the deep emotional scars inflicted on the children.

Family Promise, Sept 28 - Oct. 5—

Many thanks to the volunteers that made possible our recent hosting of houseless families:

Set-up and Clean-up of the rooms and kitchen, transporting of beds to the next church: Jon, Beth & Eli Davidann, Pat Gilbert, Marian & John Heidel, Ty & Jarred Magbee, Connie & Mark Mitchell, Bill Muench, Dennis & Scott Peters, Jean Tsuji, E. K. Whiting and Loren Wilson.

Dinner hosts: Ann Bell & Pat Gilbert, Gaye Sulkey & Annie Deramo (from our support congregation, Shambala Meditation), Dianne Brookins, Jeff, Tori & Ian Lansdown & Rhonda Perry, Connie & Mark Mitchell, Megan Waupe, and Gay Tsukamaki & Cheryl Renfroe.

Overnight hosts: Marian & John Heidel, Charlyn & George Zuttermeister, Carol & David Shibata, Leilani & Gerry Madison, Jenny Rawlings, and Beth & Jon Davidann.

Laundry of linens: Heidels, Susie Jannuzzi, Madisons, Barbara Manni, Mitchells, Wanda Nichols, Peters, Wymans, and Zeilingers.

Support and liaison with groups using the building: Jane Muench.

(If I have missed anyone, please let me know; I am grateful for YOU, too! And if anyone wants to join us, the next hosting will be sometime in December.)

We had a full house at one point, with 15 individuals and 4 families. John Heidel saw one of them after they had moved on to another church, and he said, "We MISS your church!"

\$1,235 was received in October for the PC (USA)

Peacemaking Offering / CC (DOC) Reconciliation Offering. The amount is divided equally between the two denominations. The Presbyterians suggest reserving one-fourth of its receipts for local use. Accordingly, the Witness Commission has selected the Aloha Peace House recipient of this portion of the offering—\$154.38.

Sixth Annual Chocolate Extravaganza—Sat., Nov. 15th
Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 780 Keolu Drive, Kailua, 6:30-9 pm
Admission: \$20 pre-sale, \$25 at the door; Keiki 6 and under are free!
Call 262-4548 for tickets today! Ask about the Golden Ticket event!

The Chocolate Extravaganza is an annual family fun event for the chocolate lover of any age! Come join us for a buffet of all-you-can-eat chocolate complete with a delicious chocolate fountain and silent auction.

Proceeds benefit:

*Family Promise of Hawai'i
The Institute for Human Services
Emmanuel Episcopal Church*



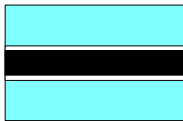
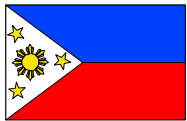
Adult Study during Advent



In keeping with the international theme of our stewardship event and in recognition of our visiting minister from Scotland, the format of the Sunday morning Adult Study during Advent will follow an international theme. Members of our congregation who have experiences or information about the celebration of Advent and Christmas in other parts of the world are invited to share these memories during an informal "talk story" time on Sunday mornings. Enough people have already volunteered to have one session on Europe, one on Asia and Africa, and one on the Pacific Islands. Please let John Heidel know if you have a story or tradition to share and he will keep you informed. A tentative schedule is as follows:

November 30	Background and "Debunking Christmas"
December 7	Europe
December 14	Asia and Africa
December 21	Pacific Islands

The class will meet in the sanctuary from 8:30 to 9:30am.



Can you correctly identify each of the above flags with its country?

Countries: Kenya, Micronesia, Scotland, Botswana, & Philippines



About Presbyterians

by Rosemary Allen

"Anyone who can be a Christian can be a Presbyterian" is a quote from a small pamphlet (Channing Bete Co.) I recently read & it goes on to give basic information including that "The ministry (of the Presbyterian Church) is the membership, not a special group set apart from the rest." Our work & future goals seem to be in accord with these words.

Presbyterianism has a long history—beginning with the early church of the New Testament & extending through the centuries until the Protestant Reformation (1517 & Martin Luther) sparked a major impetus. John Calvin in Geneva (1533) & his student John Knox in Scotland (1559) established Presbyterianism as we know it today.

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Fiona's Coming Back!

CCU and Stromness Parish (Church of Scotland) are both island churches. And we have history.

In July 2005 we exchanged Pastors for a month. The Rev. Fiona Lillie came to sunny Kailua. Buddy and Estelle went to chilly Stromness in the Orkney Islands (off the far north end of Scotland.)

Popping in for worship one Sunday morning in Stromness during Buddy's 2003 Renewal Leave, Buddy, Estelle and Fiona met and hit it off. By noon the next day the idea of a Parish Exchange was in the air. It was an enormous success on all sides. Buddy experienced two weddings. Fiona experienced Aloha!

After worship Sunday, November 30th, Fiona will take Buddy and Estelle to the Honolulu airport where they will begin their trek toward Scotland. Fiona will serve CCU as Exchange Pastor throughout the month of December. Membership Commission has planned to capitalize on the Scottish presence in Kailua for Advent.

By the way, it was bone chilling cold in July 2003 in Stromness. During December, they have only six hours of daylight, gale force winds, ice and snow. So, Buddy and Estelle get "the adventure" and a reunion with some lovely people in Stromness while Fiona, alas, gets the beach, warm sunny skies and, best of all, CCU!

Since they have long wanted to do something of a missionary nature, it is rumored that Rennie and Cheryl will also travel to Scotland to spend time in Stromness as part of the Parish Exchange.

The things we sometimes do for our faith.

Notice of

**Stated Meeting of Congregation
November 30th, 11:30 am
(following worship)**

- **Elect Officers**
- **Approve 2009 Operating Budget**
- **Approve 2009 Capital Budget**



Memories

By Rosemary Allen

Looking ahead at CCU in coming months of probable pastor search & interim pastor concerns reminded me of past experiences of similar times in our history. They evoke interesting & unusually fond memories!

After four years at Christ Presbyterian Church our founding pastor Bill McClellan returned to California in 1967, but assistant pastor Abe Dohi stayed with us through the following years while we went through the search process. Abe & Luetta & two young Dobis received a call to an L A church & also returned to CA in 1970.

CPC's first searching experience brought Warren & Harriet Studer & family to us—to stay through the busy years of the '70s until 1981 when they retired and also returned to California! During those years—in 1974—we became a merged church with Windward Christian Church (Disciples) as Christ Church Uniting.

During the merger process, CPC's Warren Study and WCC's "Bon" Bonvillain were the pastor leaders of the two churches. F. D. Bonvillain was a pastoral intern for WCC, coming to them from seminary. He was a middle-aged seminarian who had already had a long career as a professional chef (yes, in CA). "Bon" & Warren made a great duo to keep the rest of our merger committee & two congregations on the path to merger as CCU.

When CCU was chartered in 1974 Warren became pastor of the gathered church while "Bon" returned to complete his seminary training in CA.

With Studers' retirement Dick Walenta became our interim pastor for 1982-83. Dick, a former Navy chaplain, came to Hawaii as a counselor & teacher & was, with wife Annie, active at CCU. As we enjoyed Dick's sermons, we also enjoyed Annie's artistic talents. Not long after Dick's "interim" with CCU he was called as pastor to Windward United Church. After his retirement there, the Walentas moved from Kailua out to Kahumana Community (on the leeward coast side of Oahu) where they helped to develop that community & continue to serve there.

In 1983 Donna Faith Eldredge was called as CCU's pastor, bringing interesting & innovative years until 1991 when she became Director of the Hawaii Council of Churches & later served several other churches in Hawaii & the Pacific.

CCU's interim pastor for 1991-92 was Wallace Fukunaga, a pastor who had once retired to go into business in Oahu's north shore community. He then came back into the pastorate as our interim & afterward continued in pastoral service at Community Church of Honolulu and Waiohiola Congregational Church & lives in Honolulu.

Following Jim Pitts' comparatively short time as our pastor, by 1994 we again had an interim pastor and Ron Bezanson was our interim until 1996 when Buddy Summers was called here.

Ron had a career as an Army chaplain, part of his service being at Tripler Hospital. He & wife Mary Jo made a home in Kaneohe & in their retirement years were active in preaching & teaching at Ft. DeRussy military chapel in Waikiki. Mary Jo passed away a year ago, but Ron continues to spend part of the year here.

In recent years CCU has enjoyed two short terms of "renewal" pastor (while the Summers were away). In 2003 Bill & Lyn Harvey came from CA to be with us for the summer. Summer of 2007 brought Dwight Morita & Mary Paik to us & they have stayed making their home in Kailua.

Now we await changes in the months to come—and anticipate "getting to know" personalities of interest, pastoral or otherwise!

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

10/21 Report to Christ Church Uniting From: Foodland



Thank you for participating in Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program. Here are the results for your organization:

Customer donations:	\$3,360
Foodland donations:	786
Western Union donations:	155
Total donations:	\$4,301

From CCU Bookkeeper:

A little over \$940.72 was the matching gift CCU received today (10/22) in addition to the Customer donations to CCU in the amount of \$3,360.14. **An additional 28% over what CCUers actually contributed!!!**
I'm looking forward to participating again next year!

Aloha, Jane Muench



***Great décor! Great exhibits!
Delicious “ono” food! Wonderful entertainment!
Great party! Very, very nice!***

**just some of the comments heard about the
10/25 Stewardship Celebration Dinner**

***Thanks, everyone, for making the evening truly
“an International Experience” . . .
from food, dress & décor to entertainment.***



2009 Pledge Update:
25 pledging units have pledged \$91,190

Continued from Page 4
About Presbyterians

In the USA the first presbytery was established in Philadelphia in 1706. By July 4, 1776 there were many Presbyterians in America and 14 of them (including clergyman John Witherspoon) were signers of the Declaration of Independence!

Of course CCU members are aware that Presbyterians are organized. A brief refresher on our church structure is:

1. Members of the local congregation elect elders to a session (we call it our council), our governing body.
2. Representatives from local sessions form a presbytery of several or many churches (our Presbytery of the Pacific has 53 churches in California & Hawaii). It meets regularly several times each year.
3. Synod in turn, which meets less frequently, consists of representatives from several presbyteries. We are part of the

Synod of Southern California & Hawaii.

4. General Assembly is our national governing body, made up of clergy & lay people chosen by the presbyteries. It meets every other year, electing national officers & considering & acting upon concerns brought by the presbyteries. GA meets in different parts of the US—last summer’s GA met in San Jose CA.

You may sense that Presbyterianism has a structure somewhat similar to the USA’s local-county-state-national organization. Remember those 14 signers of the Declaration! (However, I do not have statistics for the first Constitutional convention.)

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 November

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

Date	Name	Duty
11/2	Paul Haring, Wendy Teixeira Dianne Brookins Rosemary Allen Wendy Teixeira Temie Shade Connie Mitchell	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer
11/9	Cathy & Clancy Lyman Beth Davidann Estelle Codier Leilani Madison Dianne Brookins Jim Burgoyne	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer
11/16	Charlene Hosenfeld & Rollo Scheurenbrand Susan Wilson Jan Stiles John Stiles Paul Belanger Marian Heidel	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer
11/23	Wendy Teixeira, E. K. Whiting Corky Sorensen Ann Bell & Stephanie Hudgins Christopher Medeiros Rennie Renfroe Bob Grantham	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer
11/30	Cathy Lyman, Loren Wilson Chandra Peters Kalia Medeiros Lauren Medeiros Temie Shade Connie Mitchell	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Good News and the Younger Church Scripture Reader People Prayers & Communion Server Communion Server w/ Table Prayer

November Birthdays

Peter Tchou	5
Angyl Magbee	7
Rennie Renfroe	11
Stuart Wade	16
Jessica Brookins	23
Jane Muench	28

November Anniversaries

None known

November Flower Calendar

11/2	Open
11/9	Renfroe
11/16	Tchou
11/23	Open
11/30	Wyman

From June Grantham . . .

Would you like to give a gift to CCU of a plant or a flower on Sunday morning November 2nd or 23rd? After worship you can take it home to enjoy and remember the thanks and smiles and happy feelings. Sign up on the flower chart posted on the Breezeway Bulletin Board.

Children in Worship: Bible Stories

Children love stories! Our current series is titled: **"Let me tell you a story about Joseph."** November story selections follow:

Nov. 2	Genesis 37:2-28
Nov. 9	Genesis 39:1-6
Nov. 16	Genesis 41:1-57
Nov. 23	Genesis 42-44 (3 chapters, summarize please)
Nov. 30	Genesis 45:1-15

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.)