



February 2011

"The Messenger of Love"

Volume 15 Issue 2

Ka Elele Aloha

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
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from Pastor Kerry Grogan . . .



January has been a busy and full month! I have so appreciated sitting down with several folks around meals or just in my office to hear their stories. It has been a time of trying to figure out "how things are done around here," and what is my role and place in how things are done? I have met some colleagues in ministry and in the broader community, and I'm looking forward to attending my first ever Presbyterian gathering this weekend in S. California. It has also been an interesting time of learning the unique ways of CCU, Kailua, and Hawaii.

I'm reminding myself how important it is to pay attention. For example, I'm used to highway or interstate speeds of 65, whereas most highway speeds here are 45 or 50. There are lots of crosswalks, pedestrians and cyclists, and not always where you expect. But sometimes it's in the unexpected that we are jarred into paying attention, like a flock (or is it brood?) of chickens crossing the street, the sound of children playing next door, the

beauty of the Koolau Mountain range shrouded in clouds or gleaming in the sunlight, sharing a good meal and laughter with new friends and old, seeing a sea turtle swim by.

I love the reminders to slow down, to pay attention, to be intentional. Sometimes I can be so focused on my destination, or where I'm supposed to be, or on my to do list, and what I want to accomplish, that I miss the little signs and signals telling me to slow down, to be patient, or to just wait. I can so easily miss the loveliness and uniqueness around me. Our Sunday morning discussion of "The Other Wiseman" has reiterated this idea that sometimes we get so caught up in getting to the destination that we lose sight of the needs, the beauty, and the care that is needed here and now. So if I get in too much of a hurry, if I move to fast or don't seem to be paying attention, help me remember to slow down.

There is joy and beauty in each day if we can slow down enough to appreciate them. God is present and speaking to us in all of life, if we are listening and paying attention.

The March Newsletter information deadline is February 23rd
Please have information into the office by that date.

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday

Reading/Study @ home.

I am available by cell phone (808 354-3427).

Tuesday thru Thursday
 @ CCU, 9-3

Friday – Day Off



CCU Pastor Kerry Grogan being received into Presbytery of Pacific membership at its 1/29 meeting, Torrance, CA

Notice of Annual Meeting of the Congregation

February 13th, following worship, in the Sanctuary

Business:

- Receive Annual Report
- Elect Elder (possibly)
- Time of Remembrance

**Excerpts from
"The Day After" Report:
1/29/11 Meeting of the
Presbytery of the Pacific . . .**

A Way Forward: The Presbytery had a spirited, substantial, and well-reasoned discussion of the Way Forward proposal. After deliberating on the proposal for over an hour, the Presbytery voted in a very close decision (81 for, 83 against) not to adopt the Way Forward proposal as a whole. The Presbytery then voted to adopt the Gracious Dismissal policy alone, as it was outlined in the Way Forward proposal.

The Confession of Belhar: After a short discussion, the Presbytery voted in favor of adding the Confession of Belhar to the PC(USA) Book of Confessions. Several commissioners mentioned the historic and reconciling impact including this Confession in the PC(USA) Constitution, as it is the first confession to come from the Christian Church beyond Europe or North America.

Peace Center Gets Funding from Lulu Stevens: The Presbytery approved a \$15,000 grant to United University Church's peacemaking training among young people, including the Peace Camp, Peace Kids, and Youth Leadership Academy in Peacemaking.

The Pacific Presbytery Family Grows: Pacific Presbytery advanced Joel Larson (First Hollywood) and Joshua Yee (South Bay) to candidacy and received four new minister members:

- Rev. Kerry Grogan, an ordained minister of the CC (DOC), while she is pastor of Christ Church Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
- Rev. Dan Hagmaier, new designated pastor of Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Dae Jung, associate pastor of First Congregational Church, L.A.
- Rev. Amanda Riley, new parish associate with Brentwood Presbyterian Church

New Form of Government Workshop and Vote on March 8: The next Presbytery meeting will be on March 8, 2011, at 4 p.m. On that day, former Stated Clerk Steve Smith will lead a workshop on the New Form of Government at 2:30 p.m.

All other amendments will be voted on at the May 10th meeting of Presbytery to be held at Knox Presbyterian Church.

February 2011 CCU Event Schedule:

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2/5, 8am | <u>Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club</u> |
| 2/3 & successive Thursdays, 6:30pm & 7:30pm | <u>Chancel Ringers Rehearsal</u>
<u>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</u> |
| 2/6 & 13, 8:30am | <u>Adult Study: John the Baptist Study</u> (see pg. 3 for details) |
| 2/6, & successive Sundays, 10am (S) | <u>Sunday Morning Worship</u> (see pg. 5 for details) |
| 2/12, 10:30am | <u>Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch @ Cinnamon's Restaurant in Kailua</u> |
| 2/13, after worship (S) | <u>Annual Meeting of the Congregation</u> |
| 2/19, 9am-3pm (O) | <u>Elder/Deacon Training and Planning Retreat</u> |
| 2/23, 10am | <u>March Newsletter information deadline</u> |



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information deadline is
February 23rd.
Please have information into
the office by that date.**

COMING :

3/6/11 Pastor Kerry's Installation Service as Pastor of CCU

Adult Study . . .

8:30 am in the Ohana Room

February 6 & 13: A class discussion on why John the Baptist has such a prominent role in the Gospels

OUTLINE:

LOOKING AT THE GOSPELS' JOHN

LOOKING AT JOHN IN ACTS

Acts 18: 24-19:7

LOOKING AT JOHN IN JOSEPHUS' WRITINGS

Jewish Antiquities

(book 18, chapter 5, 2)

HISTORY AND POLITICS OF THE TIMES (50BC to 100AD)

Time line and historical background

FOLLOWING JOHN ON THE MAP

Birth

Preaching along the Jordan

Preaching in Machaerus

In prison at Machaerus

Death.

AND NOW FOR JOHN THE BAPTIST

Following the historical John and

Jesus

THE BATTLE FOR THEOLOGICAL SUPREMACY

Establishment of the early church hierarchy

Determining of forgeries and false doctrine

The heretical expunging

The emergence of the Pauline doctrine

Constantine and Christianity

EARLY DOCTRINES AND WRITERS

SABAEAN AND MAENDEANS, DESCENDANTS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

February 20 & 27: We will begin a study that will explore the similarities and differences of Christianity and Islam.

Because there is so much misunderstanding and even more misinformation, it is important that we do what we can to increase our understanding and receive accurate information.

On February 20 Dr. Saleem Ahmed will be our guest. Saleem was raised and educated in Pakistan and is a Muslim. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Hawai'i in 1965 and worked at the East-West Center for many years before he changed careers; author and financial planner. He is the founder of the All Believers Network (Belnet)—an interfaith group that seeks common ground among all religions. His comments will be based on two books he has published: Beyond Veil and Holy War - Islamic Teachings and Muslim Practices with Biblical

comparisons and Islam, Koranic Verses on War and Peace and their Implications.

Beginning February 27th we will have several sessions based on a curriculum written by Ronn Kerr - "Christianity and Islam." Material will examine the primary similarities and differences in the hope that a greater understanding will foster acceptance at a time when our secular world seems to be pushing us toward hostility.

Please join us Sunday mornings at 8:30am in the CCU Ohana Room.

from Bill Muench . . .

For the past several years I have been wondering why John the Baptist has gotten so much "ink" in the new testament. While it is reasonable to assume the possibility that he saw himself as the "voice crying out in the wilderness," after his recognition of Jesus as the Messiah, why would his followers still stay with him rather than with Jesus? This class will look at the history before, during and after John's time and some of the possible theories as to why he is in the Bible. Come join us in an interesting (and possibly controversial) discussion on "John the Baptist...why is he in the Bible?"

Notice Reminder

**Retreat/Planning Gathering
(including short business meeting)
for Deacons Ministry Team
and Church Council**

Saturday, February 19, 2011

9 am—3 pm

Ohana Room

Lunch provided

Day's agenda forthcoming.

1/11/11, From Pacific School of Religion—

Dear Christ Church Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians,

Thank you for your January 1, 2011 gift of \$335 to the Wally T. Fukunaga Endowment Fund at Pacific School of Religion. The Endowment at Pacific School of Religion is crucial to insuring the future of the school. The fund supports everything from student scholarships to faculty chairs to emerging projects.

...
We are grateful for your gifts, your friendship, and your consistent sustenance of this work. We will be pleased to recognize you in the 2010-2011 Honor Roll.

Sincerely,
Kathi McShane
Vice President for
Institutional Advancement



About Presbyterians

by Rosemary Allen

Recently (January 29) pastor Kerry, Bill and Jane Muench, both CCU elders, attended the quarterly meeting of Presbytery of the Pacific at Faith Presbyterian Church in Torrance, CA. Kerry was officially welcomed into the Presbytery and all three participated in the various business matters of the day.

Thus it seems an apt time to review the structure of this rather large Christian body of which we are a part. Unlike Pennsylvania, which has the largest number of Presbyterian congregations—1100 plus—in the USA, Hawaii has the smallest—only 6, all on Oahu.

Next step “up” is the Presbytery of the Pacific with office in Los Angeles and general presbyter Rev. Linda Culbertson, who has visited us many times. It includes 53 churches with over 15,000 members in the metro area of LA and our own Hawaii. It is said to “reflect God’s rainbow of diverse ethnicities, cultures & theologies.

Then comes The Synod of Southern California and Hawaii which has 8 presbyteries extending from the southern border of CA north past Santa Barbara and out into the Pacific. The Synod gathers representatives of the 8 presbyteries once each year to act on business from the presbyteries and prepare recommendations for General Assembly.

The over-all decision-making Presbyterian body is General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA. It meets biennially, gathering in a different region of the USA each time. It is comprised of delegates from everyone of 16 synods who elect a G.A. Moderator and act upon many issues & concerns which “come up” through the local churches → presbyteries → synods. It includes many special events & worship services as well as the enactment of policies & other decision-making. GA meets for a week—usually in the summer—every other year.

Presbyterian Church organization has similarities to our country’s structure. Both had beginnings in the same historical era—and even some of the same “founding fathers.”



Earth Care Congregations Certification Update:

~from Charlene Hosenfeld of the Green Team~

CCU is now in the process of applying to the Presbyterian Church (USA) Environmental Ministries for certification as an Earth Care Congregation (ECC). To be certified, a congregation must commit to an “Earth Care Pledge” and show earth care actions in four categories sufficient to meet the certification criteria.

Jane Muench, John Heidel and I independently, and then collaboratively, completed the required audit of CCU in the four areas: Worship, Education, Facilities, & Outreach. This process allowed us to review our many “green” accomplishments as well as identify areas we can address in the future.

Along with our application, audit results, and Earth Care Pledge, we will be sending a copy of our “Environmental Stewardship Practices”, and a summary of CCU’s green highlights from 2006 - 2010 with some photos. I enjoyed reviewing the summary of our environmental stewardship activities—from our Earth Day celebrations, Ultimate Recycling Events (aka garage sales), Solar Energy Fair, reusable shopping bags, slideshows, Preach-in on Global Warming—to our many earth-care themed Adult Study classes. A copy of the entire packet will be available for any and all who would like to see it.

Once CCU is awarded the ECC certification we will receive a certificate, the use of the ECC logo, listing on the PC (USA) Environmental Ministries website, notification of our presbytery, a press release for local publicity, and an earth care book for the CCU library.

For more information from Environment Ministries about EEC certification, to read the “Eco-Journeys” blog, or to subscribe to the monthly newsletter, “Eco-Notes”, go to



*Reverend Kerry Grogan
(newly received minister member
of Presbytery) and
Elder Commissioner Jane Muench
stand with*

*Reverend Shin-Hwa Park,
who began her term
as Moderator of Presbytery
at the 1/29/11 meeting.*

Memories

by Rosemary Allen

Despite having spent many hours in CCU's kitchen over the past 44+ years (we moved into this building in 1966), it seems that I have never recounted much of its history! So, with help from several experts, here goes:

Of course, there was no question that our early-'60s building plans would include a kitchen. We only had a few basic appliances, but plenty of space. In the very early days we used some of that space for a crib room to supplement the small nursery (now half of the "Ohana" room). Those were the years when many of us had very young families!

From the beginning, Aloha Hour was part of the Sunday schedule. At first we served only coffee, tea & juices, but one day someone (I think it was Cathy Lyman) brought cookies—& from then on it was cookies & other "goodies." Pat Gilbert remembers that kitchen "duty" was served by families on a weekly schedule, so everyone had a turn at helping.

In 1974 Seagull Schools leased from CCU & moved into two classrooms, office space & the kitchen which they equipped to prepare meals for their preschools around the island and several community groups. This necessitated moving institutional-style appliances & storage in—and filled the kitchen very FULL.

During the Seagull kitchen years we served the Aloha Hour Sundays outside, using tables set up near the kitchen door facing the courtyard. In 1994 Pat Gilbert took over "supervision" of the CCU kitchen & continues to the present for Aloha Hours plus the special events that come along—as potluck suppers, celebratory events, and quarterly Family Promise meals. (And high-chairs have joined the kitchen furniture as we serve the families of that last group.)

A major change came in 2005 when Seagull moved its kitchen service to a new facility at one of their newer preschools. Space returned to the CCU kitchen—and we were able once again to open up to the breezeway.

Paul Dzakowic was CCU's Building & Grounds elder in 2005 and well remembers the task of renovating the kitchen space & furnishing it with new appliances to fit our needs. Cleaning, painting, laying floor, installing equipment & the many chores which resulted in a brand new CCU kitchen—ready for Aloha Hours, coffee hours, celebrations (both farewells & welcomes), feeding families, and other needs which arise—demanded the "sweat equity" efforts of many CCUers. The result was a fine kitchen, now used & enjoyed all year long.

Among the CCUers who worked along with Paul on the kitchen redo were Rennie Renfroe, Paul Haring, E. K. Whiting, Loren & Susan Wilson, Keith Zeilinger, Jeff Lansdown, & the late Carl Bennett (who did much of the electrical installation).*

A unique happening came to the kitchen in Advent of 2009 when Gerry Madison began his coffee ministry—which continues to this day. Also continuing is the CCU deacons' ministry of the Sunday Aloha Hours with Pat Gilbert in charge, helped by Peggy Zeilinger, Jean Tsuji, Susan Wilson, and myself, plus CCUs good cooks & gardeners!

(*If I have missed any workers, please let me know & I will add credits.)

Upcoming Sundays:

Feb. 6

Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-12

Sermon: "Contemporary or Traditional?"



Feb. 13 National Preach-In on Global Warming (a project of Interfaith Power & Light)

Scripture: Duet. 30:15-20

Sermon: "Living in the Promised Land"

Feb. 20 Faith Shared Sunday (a project of The Interfaith Alliance)

Special Guest: Saleen Ahmed

*Scriptures: There will be readings from the sacred texts of various faiths.

Sermon Text: Matt. 5:38-48

Sermon: "The Second Mile"

Feb. 27

Scripture: Matt. 6:24-34

Sermon: "Is Worry Killing You? Let the Church Help!"

*

"In the Abrahamic religions, a book of sacred scriptures is of central importance. Jews, Christians, and Muslims, known as "people of the book," believe that the content of their respective scriptures was revealed by God and provides instruction on how to live in a manner pleasing to God. The scriptures of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam provide encouragement for their adherents to live in love, by law, with prayer and in the practice of charity. Unfortunately, specific passages in each tradition can be and have been ripped from their historical/scriptural context and manipulated to promote division, nurture hatred, and even inspire violence. Such abuse of scriptures is as common as it is wrong. As part of our worship on February 20 we will read scriptures drawn from the Torah of Judaism, the Gospels of Christianity, and the Qur'an of Islam. Each scripture represents the distinctive truth of the tradition from which it comes and expresses openness, respect, and an invitation for cooperation with other religions."

~from Interfaith Alliance material

from Gerry Madison . . .

Coffee Ministry Goes Greener and Better!

A major upgrade to the Coffee Ministry is underway. We are in the process of joining the Equal Exchange Interfaith Program, a network of faith communities working to create a greener and more just food system.



Equal Exchange, a worker-owned cooperative, works with small farmer cooperatives in Latin America, Africa, Asia and the U.S. building just trading relationships based on trust, fair prices, affordable credit and environmental sustainability.

Equal Exchange's Interfaith Program partners with communities of faith like ours as we learn about and promote Fair Trade. We can live out our values through our consumer choices and enable small farming communities to provide for their families, green our planet and build a better future.



The Interfaith Program offers 100% organic and fairly traded coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate and nuts at wholesale pricing to congregations and faith groups. Both the Disciples of Christ and the PC/USA Coffee Projects partner with Equal Exchange.



We will be phasing in our E/E products as our current supplies run out. Our initial offerings will be: Organic Breakfast Blend regular and decaffeinated coffees; Organic English Breakfast and Black teas; Organic Hot Cocoa with organic milk powder; and Organic Cane Sugar packets. Look for them soon at the Aloha Fellowship Hour!



Support the Kailua Food Bank every Sunday by bringing your food donations!



About Disciples . . .

Below is a web address where we can learn more about The Design of the Christian Church.

<http://www.disciples.org/AboutTheDisciples/TheDesignoftheChristianChurch/tabid/228/Default.aspx>

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday -

Reading/Study @ home.
I am available by cell phone (808 354-3427).

Tuesday thru Thursday -

@ CCU, 9-3

Friday - Day Off

Kerry's Email Addresses:

@ CCU: pastor@hawaii.rr.com
Personal: kerrybeal@yahoo.com

Grogan's Address:

1404 Akamai St.
Kailua, HI 96734

Lay & Elder Worship Assignments for February 2011

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

Date	Name	Duty
2/6	Cathy Lyman & Mary Stone Leilani Madison Wendy Teixeira Jane Muench	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
2/13	Cathy Lyman & Jan Stiles Rosemary Allen Claire Schrader Peter Tchou	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
2/20	Loren & Susan Wilson Marian Heidel Chelsea Anderson John Heidel	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
2/27	Mark & Connie Mitchell Beth Davidann Wanda Nichols Dianne Brookins	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up

February Communion Preparation: Susan Wilson

February Tellers:



February Birthdays

Emma Peters	1
Brian McCreanor	4
George Sakakini	4
Lauren Buck Medeiros	8
Clancy Lyman	10
Susan Wilson	10
Scott Peters	13
Jarryd Magbee	19
Jan Stiles	21
Paul Snipes	25
Ardie Aucoin	26

February Anniversaries

Charlene Hosenfeld & Rollo Scheurenbrand	23
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February Flower Calendar

2/6	Heidel
2/13	Stiles
2/20	Tchou
2/27	Lyman



At the 1/29 Presbytery meeting, Pastor Kerry chats with another new minister to the Presbytery of the Pacific—Rev. Dan Hagmaier, new designated pastor of Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church. The four new ministers to Presbytery led the gathering

My apologies & thanks to Kerry & Bill—who accompanied me to a Clerks' Training Event following the 1/29 Presbytery meeting. Discussion centered on processes, forms, procedural changes, theology, and tips on effective clerkship.

*Jane Muench
CCU Clerk of Council*