



January 2011

The Messenger of Love™

Volume 15 Issue 1

Ka Elele Aloha

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
 1300 Kailua Rd., Kailua, HI 96734-4356
 Rev. Kerry Grogan, Pastor

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from Pastor Kerry Grogan . . .

Mahalo CCU!

What a wonderful day Sunday was! What a great way to begin a new year! I'm so grateful for the warm reception, complete with cake and goodies; you gave me and my family. A few moments into the worship Annie leaned over to Mike and said, *I like this church!* The music by Bill Muench and Kalia Medeiros was so beautiful and CCU is so blessed to have Doc Wilson and Kalua Tataipu sharing their gifts of music. My heart was filled with joy as we worshipped together on my first Sunday, and the first Sunday of a new year.



Author Barry Lopez speaks to the importance of story in his book *Crow and Weasel*:

I would ask you to remember only this one thing, said Badger. The stories people tell have a way of taking care of them. If stories come to you, care for them. And learn to give them away where they are needed. Sometimes a person needs a story more than food to stay alive. That is why we put these stories in each other's memory. This is how people care for themselves. One day you will be good storytellers. Never forget your obligations.

I hope we will find many opportunities to talk story. My door is always open; I love a good cup of coffee or tea, and never turn down an invitation for food! And let us share our stories not just with one another, but with people around us who are in need of the stories we have to give away, the stories about how God has worked and is working in our lives.



One of the goals I have as we begin our ministry and faith journeys together is to "talk story" with one another. I've heard just a little bit of some of your stories. I look forward to hearing your stories of your life at CCU, your personal and faith stories. What are your passions? What are your dreams for this congregation, for the community of Kailua and for the broader community? It's important to share our communal as well as our personal stories. Just as family stories help pass on valued traditions, the stories of our congregation help us know who we are, help us hang on to what we value most, and can help us discern directions for the future. Talking story isn't just an empty past-time; it's an important part of life in community. Scripture is most of all the stories of God's people as they sought to be in relationship with God and with one another.

Features

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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



View a video of Sunday's service on the web @ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkiEKrRf2wk>

Kerry's Moving Forward...

Here are some of the things Pastor Kerry will be working on/ attending in January:

- The Interfaith Alliance Open Table meeting with Mike Grogan, John and Marian Heidel, 1/5
- Clergy Women's lunch @ the UCC conference offices w/ Lauren Buck Medeiros, 1/5
- Council Meeting, 1/12
- Ordination/Installation service for newly-elected Elders and Deacons, 1/16
- Meeting w/Commission Co-Chairs
- Planning Elder/Deacon Annual Retreat for 2/12
- Attending the 1/29 Presbytery Meeting to be introduced to the Presbytery
- Looking ahead to my Installation service, 2/20 or 2/27
- Meeting with CCU staff
- Looking ahead toward Ash Wednesday and Lenten planning
- Battling the ants in my office
- Working on learning street names!
- **Most importantly: Taking opportunities to get to know you.**

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@ CCU, 9-3

Friday - Day Off

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Kailua, HI 96734

January 2011 CCU Event Schedule:

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

1/2, 10 am Successive Sundays, 10am (S)	Pastor Kerry's first Sunday as Pastor at CCU Sunday Morning Worship Sunday Morning Worship
1/6 & successive Thursdays, 6:30pm & 7:30pm	Chancel Ringers Rehearsal Chancel Choir Rehearsal
1/8, 8am	Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club
1/8, 10:30am	Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch @ Cinnamon's Restaurant in Kailua
1/9 & successive Sundays, 8:30am	Adult Study (see pg. 3 for details)
1/12, 7pm (O)	Stated Council Meeting
1/16, 10am	Installation of Elders and Deacons during Worship Service
1/27, 10am	February Newsletter information deadline
1/29, approx. 9am	Presbytery meets in Los Angeles

**No
Commission
Meetings
Scheduled
for
January**

**The
February Newsletter
information deadline is
January 27th.
Please have information into
the office by that date.**

Adult Study . . .

8:30 am in the Ohana Room

January 9, 16 & 23: To recognize Epiphany (Jan. 6), the class will read **The Story of the Other Wise Man** by Henry Van Dyke.

First published in 1895, it expands on the legend of the three magi who followed the star to Bethlehem. He tells the story of a fourth astronomer from Persia whose intention to join the caravan met with a series of human challenges. As we follow the journey of Artaban, we'll be able to make connections with our individual journeys of faith and, perhaps, evaluate how we're doing.

Please see John Heidel if you need a copy of the book.

January 30 & 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

"Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield:

*I am unwritten; Can't read my mind, I'm undefined
I'm just beginning, The pen's in my hand, Ending unplanned
Staring at the blank page before you
Open up the dirty window
Let the sun illuminate the words That you could not find
**Reaching for something in the distance
So close you can almost taste it
Release your inhibitions Feel the rain on your skin
No one else can feel it for you Only you can let it in
No one else, no one else
Can speak the words on your lips
Drench yourself in words unspoken-
Live your life with arms wide open
Today is where your book begins- The rest is still unwritten*

*I break tradition; sometimes my tries are outside the lines
We've been conditioned To not make mistakes
But I can't live that way, no*

*Staring at the blank page before you Open up the dirty window
Let the sun illuminate the words That you could not find
(back to) ** Reaching for something...*

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?"

110th Earl Lectures and Leadership Conference

The 110th Earl Lectures and Leadership Conference, will be held at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, **January 25-27**. This year's theme is **Our Daily Bread: Faith, Work, and the Economy**. It will bring together religious and secular leaders to teach, preach, and strategize about issues of economic justice.

Join Earl Lecturers **Robert Reich**, UC Berkeley professor of public policy; **Kim Bobo**, executive director of Interfaith Worker Justice; Islamic scholar **Shaykh Hamza Yusuf**; **Bishop Yvette Flunder**, founder of City of Refuge United Church of Christ; and **Alexia Salvatierra**, executive director of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, and others, as we strive to live out the Gospel message to care for "the least of these."

The Earl Lectures are free and open to the public. Registration for Leadership Conference workshops is \$125 through November 30, \$150 from December 1, 2010. Register on line at psr.edu/earllectures or call 510/849-8218 or 800/999-0528, ext. 8218.

The Presbytery of the Pacific Announces s Fourth trip to Nicaragua

You are invited to be part of a delegation traveling to Nicaragua to deepen The Presbytery of the Pacific's relationship with its partner, the COOPEMULNAGTLE cooperative, serving rural villages in northwest Leon, Nicaragua.

When: July 9-16, 2011

Where: Managua and the rural villages of northwest Leon, Nicaragua

Cost: \$1300-1500 (all expenses included)
Travelers must raise their own funds.

Facilitated by CEPAD (The Nicaraguan Council of Protestant Churches)

Application Deadline: February 1, 2011

For more info contact Rev. Heidi Worthen Gamble
@ hworthengamble@yahoo.com.
Applications available on the wb:
www.presbyteryofthepacific.org



Ed & Miriam Noyes
CCU missionary contacts
in Lusekele, DR Congo . . .
<http://noyescongo.blogspot.com/>



About Disciples

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) you can subscribe to the Disciples News Service, and find lots of information at www.disciples.org.

Our Mission:

To be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.
(Micah 6:8)

Our Vision:

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth."
(Acts 1:8)

Our Confession:

As members of the Christian Church, we confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.
[\(Preamble to The Design\)](#)



CCU's Special Christmas Offerings totaled \$1,358.88 - Mahalo everyone for your generous giving!



About Presbyterians

by Rosemary Allen

Presbyterians Today magazine recently published an issue which featured stories about many different Presbyterians and the kinds of projects & ministries they are and have been involved in—in the USA & worldwide.

One of the articles told about "famous Presbyterians"—some known to us & some not. I'd like to pass along notes about a number—not all—of those featured:

Under the Politics heading were Presidents Dwight Eisenhower (term 1952-60) and Ronald Reagan (1980-1988) and Lee Myung-bak, president of South Korea. For Space, astronauts John Glenn, Neil Armstrong & Sally Ride (first woman in space) are listed.

Andrew Carnegie and Sam Walton were Business Presbyterians. From Journalism were listed TV "anchors" Katie Couric & Robin Roberts. In the Entertainment section members were or are James Stewart, Roy Rogers, "Mr. (Fred) Rogers, Patricia Heaton, Amy Grant & Jim Carrey.

In the history of Church Life were Anna Warner (1800s) who wrote "Jesus Loves Me" among other hymns. William Henry Sheppard (1865-1927), African-American missionary who helped end terror used by rubber companies in the Belgium Congo, Peter & Catherine Marshall, U.S. Senate chaplain & author wife ("A Man Called Peter" & other books), & Eugene Carson Blake, PCUSA leader, ecumenist, & civil rights activist who became secretary of the World Council of Churches. Blake marched with Martin Luther King & once visited Hawaii for a local Presbyterian camp-conference years ago, where I remember meeting him.



Happy Green New Year!

~from Charlene Hosenfeld of the Green Team~



This year begins the 6th year that we have had an official environmental stewardship focus at CCU. We have accomplished many things over the years; I will recap the 2010 green actions in the annual CCU Thinks Green report.

To start the New Year off, I want to highlight the "CCU Environmental Stewardship Practices". which were proposed to Council in March of 2008, and discussed/ revised by the pastor and congregation. To help us remember and renew our pledge to make CCU greener, here is the list of our Environmental Stewardship Practices as adopted in November 2008:

As the members of CCU further our commitment to environmental stewardship within our church, we adopt the following practices:

1. Turn off electrical appliances, lights, fans, air-conditioners, computers and office machines when not in use and overnight.
2. Set the sanctuary air conditioner thermostat at no lower than 74 degrees and keep the sanctuary doors closed when the air conditioning is running.
3. Provide pitchers of water (rather than bottled water) during church activities.
4. Use compostable, biodegradable plates and cold drink cups for food and beverages
5. Print/copy 2-sided; reuse paper printed 1-sided by printing on the back side; reduce the size of documents mailed (print on 1/2 sheet of paper when appropriate); save and reuse music and other copies when possible, and reuse papers when possible for scratch paper.
6. Use recycled office paper with the highest post-consumer content available and appropriate to the use.
7. Recycle office paper.
8. Recycle aluminum cans. Provide a recycling bin for all activities on church grounds.
9. Incorporate environmental stewardship content in our worship services, sermons, and written materials.
10. Incorporate native plants into our landscape.
11. Publicize our "green" campaigns and practices.

Most of these practices we do well, and some we could improve. We have also consistently engaged in green practices that are not represented in our list (e.g., green focused education, Adult Study, & guests speakers; exploring alternative energy options) and might want to think about revising the list sometime to reflect current practices -- and to push ourselves to become a deeper shade of green.

I recently became aware that the Presbyterian Church (USA) has a new environmental stewardship program for congregations to become certified as an Earth Care Congregation. The Disciples have a similar program -- the Disciples Green Church Program Certification. In October I made a request to Council that we pursue one or both of these certifications. This was approved and I will soon begin this project. Stay tuned....

12/26 Aloha for Pastor Wally



Memories

by Rosemary Allen



Dear CCU *ohana*,

Mahalo nui loa for your warm aloha on December 26, my final Sunday as your interim pastor.

I was touched by the thoughtful words spoken by many of you that morning, especially those from Paul Haring during the worship service and from Bob Grantham during the reception afterwards. They were memorable and deeply moving. Connie Mitchell again stirred our souls and lifted our spirits with her vibrant interpretative dance at worship and poignant hula at the reception. I understand Dianne Brookins and John Heidel planned the reception. Thank you, both of you, for the gracious gesture.

Your gifts of the handsome Koa box, expertly hand-crafted by Loren Wilson, and the generous monetary contribution to the endowment fund in my name at Pacific School of Religion are greatly appreciated. Upon returning home I created a special space at the entrance to my condo to display the Koa box.

I also wish to thank the kitchen crew, headed by Pat Gilbert, for the delicious potluck lunch. The crowd who had braved the rains to attend the service, that included many guests, was seen enjoying the meal over lively conversations and hearty laughter. And, ah, yes, *mahalo* for the numerous fragrant leis that extended over my ears. I felt like a high school graduate once more!

Blessings to all of you in the new year!

Aloha ke akua, in God's grace,
Wally Fukunaga

As CCU experiences notable changes in its history this month, I'm thinking of the pastors who have been part of that history. As Wally Fukunaga has cared for us as interim pastor for 20 months and Kerry Grogan arrives to begin her ministry as 2011 opens, reminiscence seems timely.

Both Windward Christian Church (Disciples) and Christ Presbyterian Church came to Kailua in the 1960s, forming new & active congregations along "church row." By the 1970s the two congregations had found much in common & began exploring the possibility of merging. After two years of work (meetings, meetings!), in February 1974, Christ Church Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians was duly chartered—and settled "at home" at 1300 Kailua Road.

I did not know the early Disciples pastors (Stan Kain & Ray Akin) but came to know F. D. ("Bon") Bonvillain, a jolly middle-aged "pastoral intern" (finishing seminary training) who came for the merger preparation years 1972-74. He and Warren Studer, CPC pastor 1968-81, made a great team to lead us through the merger to become Christ Church Uniting.

Christ Presbyterian's organizing pastor Bill McClellan got us off to a fine start from 1963-67 and was joined by assistant pastor Abe Dohi (1965-70). Both came from southern California churches with families who were active church family members (McClellans had teen-age daughters & Dohis had preschoolers—boy & girl). When Warren & Harriet Studer came in 1968 from CA, they left two older children at college there but brought two teenagers along, who eventually graduated from Kailua & Kalaheo High Schools.

After the Studers' 13-year pastorate & return to CA, Dick Walenta became our interim pastor (1982-83), bringing also the artistic talents of wife Annie and their family. Later, he became pastor of Windward United Church and also taught at Windward Community College. The Walentas stayed in Hawaii, eventually moving out to Kahumana Community—with their artistic, pastoral, & counseling skills—& often visit us.

In 1983 our first woman pastor, Donna Faith Eldredge, came from an assignment at an international church in Norway which served the families of North Sea oil-rig workers. During her years at CCU (to 1991) several members of her New England family moved here, including her mother & two siblings. She also stayed in Hawaii, serving several religious organizations including one in Guam.

1991-91 brought Wally Fukunaga to CCU in his first interim pastorate; in the intervening years until he "came again" he served several Honolulu churches. James Pitts was CCU's pastor for a short two years (1992-93) and returned to South Carolina due to health problems in his family.

Ronald Bezanson was our 1992-94 interim pastor. As a retired military chaplain, he maintains connections with the chaplaincy at Fort De Russy Chapel & national groups, traveling part time, & maintaining a home in Honolulu.

From 1996 until March 2009 Buddy Summers pastored CCU and continues to maintain a home here with wife Estelle. They are great travelers & have brought their experiences back to us plus introducing us to friends from those travels. Now we bid Wally a fond farewell as he closes his interim pastorate at CCU, but hope he will sometimes come "over the hill" from Honolulu to see us.

We look forward to hearing Kerry from the CCU pulpit & coming to know the Grogan family.

Lay & Elder Worship Assignments for January 2011

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

Date	Name	Duty
1/2	E. K. Whiting & Mary Stone Lauren Buck Medeiros Melissa Belanger Jane Muench	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
1/9	Mark & Connie Mitchell Susan Wilson Jan Stiles Peter Tchou	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
1/16	Charlene Hosenfeld & Rollo Scheurenbrand John Heidel Marian Heidel John Heidel	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
1/23	Jon & Beth Davidann Beth Davidann Jon Davidann Dianne Brookins	Ushers/Greeters Morning Prayer Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
1/30	Paul & Melissa Belanger TBA Morning Prayer Lauren Buck Medeiros John Stiles	Ushers/Greeters Scripture Reader P. Prayers/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up

January Communion Preparation: Joyce McGuire
January Tellers: 1/9,16,23,30 Paul Haring & Clancy Lyman



January Birthdays

Marian Heidel	4
Rollo Scheurenbrand	4
Wendy Teixeira	7
Wally Fukunaga	14
Victoria Lansdown	20
Bill Muench	24
Donna Bean	31

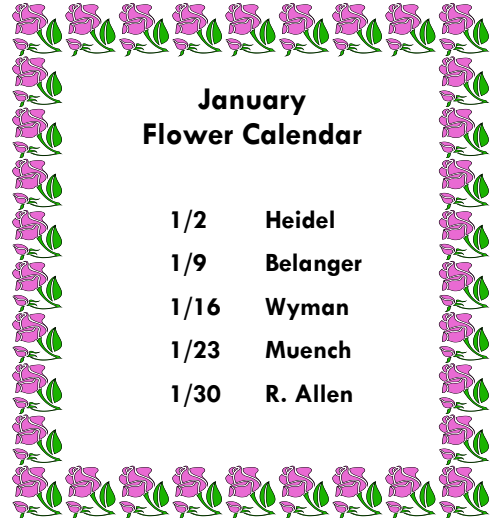
January Anniversaries

None Known



January Flower Calendar

1/2	Heidel
1/9	Belanger
1/16	Wyman
1/23	Muench
1/30	R. Allen



*Pictures in this newsletter
Courtesy of Gerry Madison
And Bill Muench*



And Mike and Annie and Micah!



TCU Frogs are Rose Bowl Champions

No 3. Texas Christian University completed a perfect season with its first Rose Bowl victory on Saturday over Wisconsin, 21-19. TCU is the first school from a non-automatic qualifying conference to play in the Rose Bowl since the onset of the BCS. TCU is a Disciples University, and the home of Brite Divinity School, the alma mater of Rev. Mike Grogan.

