



November 2011

“The Messenger of Love”

Volume 15 Issue 10

Ka Elele Aloha

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
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a harvest of blessings begets thanks giving ~ Advent Season begins

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The

December Newsletter
information deadline is
November 28th.

Please have information into
the office by that date.

November Worship:

11/6, Matt. 25:1-13
"People Get Ready"

11/13 Matt.25:14-30
"Fear Factor"

11/20 Matt. 25:31-46
"1 out of 9"

11/27

1st Sun. of Advent-Hope
Isaiah 64:1-9
"What Are We
Waiting For?"

Message from Pastor Kerry . . .

As a union church we are always looking for ways to honor both our Presbyterian and our Disciples of Christ heritages, so since October 23rd was Disciples' Heritage Sunday I thought I would write a little about Disciples' identity. Here are some of the hallmarks of our identity as Disciples, taken from the work of our denomination's 21st Century Vision Team in 2007. This is not a statement of doctrine or dogma, but rather a helpful description of some of the things that are important to us as part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

STATEMENT OF IDENTITY

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

MARKS OF IDENTITY

1. We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, requiring nothing more - and nothing less - as a basis of our life together.

2. We hold the centrality of scripture, recognizing that each person has the freedom - and the responsibility - to study God's Word within the community of the church.

3. We practice the baptism of believers, stressing that the way of Christ is costly, while also recognizing the baptism performed in other churches.

4. We structure our community around the biblical idea of covenant, emphasizing not obedience to human authority but accountability to one another because of our shared obedience to Christ.

5. We gather as often as possible for the Lord's Supper, experiencing at this table -

open to all who believe - the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

6. We participate in God's mission for the world, working with partners to heal brokenness, reconcile divisions, and bring justice to the whole human family.

7. We hear a special calling to make visible the unity of all Christians, proclaiming that in our diversity we belong to one another because we commonly belong to Christ.

8. We witness to the Gospel of God's saving love for the world in Jesus Christ, while continuing to struggle with how God's love may be known to others in different ways.

9. We affirm the priesthood of all believers, rejoicing in the gifts of the Spirit - including the gift of leadership - that God has given for the common good.

10. We celebrate the diversity of our common life, recognizing our different histories, styles of worship, and forms of service.

11. We give thanks that each local congregation, where Christ is present through faith, is truly the church, affirming as well that God's church and God's mission stretch from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.

12. We anticipate God's coming reign, seeking to serve the One whose loving dominion has no end.

I look forward to conversations with each of you as you live with these, and consider their implications for our life together as a church.



Yours In Christ,

Pastor Kerry

November 2011

CCU Event Schedule:

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 11/5, 8am | Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club |
| 11/6, 8:30-11:30am | HI-5 container pick-up @ CCU parking lot |
| 11/6, 8:30am & 11:45am & succeeding Sundays | Adult Church at Study (see pg. 4 for details) |
| 11/12, 10:30 am | Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch |
| 11/20-26 | CCU hosting Family Promise Guests (see pg. 3 for details) |
| 11/23, 7 pm | WCC sponsored Thanksgiving Service @ Kailua United Methodist Church |
| 11/26 | Greening of the Sanctuary for Advent/Christmas Season |
| 11/27 4 pm | 1st Sunday of Advent Community Sing-Along at CCU of Handel's "Messiah" |
| 11/30, 7pm | Stated Meeting of Council |

WCC sponsored

All Community Thanksgiving Eve Service—



Kailua United Methodist Church
1110 Kailua Rd., Kailua
7 pm
Special Offering received
for Women's Prison Scholarships

*CCU is asked to provide at least 2 pies towards the evening's refreshments; please notify the church office if you can provide a pie.



Please join in this special event scheduled for Saturday, 11/26, 9 am

Help decorate for the Advent Season and for the "Messiah" Community Sing Along to be held the following day, Sunday, 11/27.

Save the date!

Sun., Nov. 27, 4:00 pm
Community Sing Along
Handel's MESSIAH
at Christ Church Uniting



Come Sing! Come Listen!
Bring your friends!
Save the date!
262-6911

November Adult Study . . .

Continuing on Sundays until Advent Season begins on 11/30, we are reading "The Future of Faith" by Harvey Cox. This is a new interpretation of the history and future of religion, revealing how doctrines and dogma in Christianity and other religions around the world are giving way to new grassroots movements based on community, social justice, and spiritual experience. Class is 8:30 am in the Ohana Room.

An additional study group meets at 11:45 am following worship; also in the Ohana Room—The "Nooma Video Series" which is a progressive series of short films connects real truth with real life. These modern parables hit issues all the way from who God is to how to cope when you don't know what he's doing; from love and loss to leading an authentic life. The name NOOMA comes from a phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma (πνευμα) meaning "wind," "spirit," or "breath." **Bring a brown bag lunch if you like; invite a friend!**

Adult Study during Advent —begins 11/27

One of the options for adult study during Advent will be a class featuring an exploration of some of YOUR favorite Christmas carols.

Beginning on November 27 and running through December 18, we will look at the history and message of two or three carols each Sunday. If you would like to research and present a carol or suggest a carol for our consideration, please let John Heidel know and it will be scheduled for one of the four Sundays of Advent. Of course, we will listen to them and sing along!!

Please join us at 8:30am in the Ohana Room as we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas.

**10/17 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 our organization:

Customer donations:	\$4,736.00
Foodland donations:	\$747.08
Western Union donations:	\$145.44
Total donations:	\$5,628.52

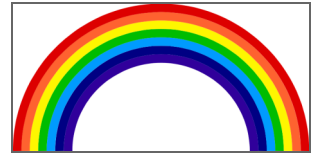
From CCU Bookkeeper:

\$892.52 was the matching gift CCU received in addition to the Customer donations to CCU in the amount of \$4,736.00 . . . **An additional 19% over what CCUers actually contributed!!!**

I'm looking forward to participating again next year!

Aloha, Jane Muench
CCU Bookkeeper

**Report to CCUers
Re: Pledge Drive
for 2012**



- **A great evening of stewardship celebration took place at the Rainbow Room (CCU sanctuary) October 23rd.**
- **The dinner was terrific!**
- **The music of Broadway sounded!**
- **The Pledge Tally grew throughout the evening. Several days later, pledges totaled \$89,490—86% of our goal!**
- **And CCU is still accepting pledges.**



About Presbyterians

by Rosemary Allen

To report about Presbyterians we sometimes need reminders of basic policies of PC (USA)—its life & work, nationally & worldwide. It all results in some amazing, life-improvement & life-saving work among states & nations (which this newsletter often reports) & peoples of all corners of the world.

Here is the basic mission statement of our PC (USA):

As Christians, we understand "Mission" to be God's work for the sake of the world God loves. We understand this work to be centered in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and made real through the active and leading power of the Holy Spirit. The "where" and "how" and "with whom" of mission is of God's initiative, sovereign action and redeeming grace. The message we are called to bear is the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The PC (USA) claims responsibility for bearing the Good News in this way: "The Church is called to be Christ's faithful evangelist

1. going into the world, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all he has commanded;
2. demonstrating by the love of its members for one another and by the quality of its common life the new reality of Christ; sharing in worship, fellowship, and nurture, practicing a deepened life of prayer and service under the guidance of the Holy Spirit;
3. participating in God's activity in the world through its life for others by
 - (a) healing and reconciling and binding up wounds,
 - (b) ministering to the needs of the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the powerless,
 - (c) engaging in the struggle to free people from sin, fear, oppression, hunger, and injustice,
 - (d) giving itself and its substance to the service of those who suffer,
 - (e) sharing with Christ in the establishing of his just, peaceable, and loving rule in the world."

**CCU hosting
Family Promise
houseless guests
November 20-26**

Coordinators: Beth Davidann & Marian Heidel
Notify: Beth D. if you can host overnight & Pat Gilbert about providing food

Set-up: Nov. 20th, after worship; can use help!
Take-down: Nov. 27th, before Adult Study; can use help!



Love Thy Neighbor — An Update, Part 1

By Charlene Hosenfeld

If you saw my slideshow presentations in 2009 you might remember some the current and predicted consequences of global warming—warming of land and ocean temperatures; increases in severe weather events such as heat waves, flooding, droughts, and hurricanes; dying coral reefs; melting polar ice . . . and rising sea levels.

One slide showed present-day effects of global warming in Tuvalu, an island nation halfway between Hawaii and Australia. The atolls of Tuvalu are small (totaling about 16 square miles), and low lying (with the highest point being about 16 feet above sea level). Rising seas are flooding homes and bringing salt water into vegetable and taro growing areas rendering them useless for producing food needed to feed the population of 10,000+. Many residents have already fled to places like Australia and New Zealand. In the recent past, the prime minister looked for a place to *resettle the entire population*—but was turned down.

Tuvalu is the face of global warming—along with places like the Maldives and Kiribati. Though many places (one could argue *all*) are feeling the effects, these island nations are places that are initially and most obviously suffering the devastating consequences of climate change due to global warming. These are not just abstract *places* on a map, they are real places inhabited by real *people*. People right this minute who are being dramatically and negatively affected by the actions and inactions of, well, us—among many others around the world.

During the slideshow, I used the term “climate refugees,” and said we will all be hearing more about this. The people in these island nations are already becoming climate refugees. Many have already left (or will soon leave) their land, their homes, their lifestyle and culture—due to the effects of global warming.

We have been told to *love our neighbors* as ourselves. The people of Tuvalu *are* our neighbors. And every action we take that needlessly contributes to global warming, is an action that hurts our neighbors—and ourselves. We *know* that global warming is already taking its toll. Now that we know, we can choose to ignore the facts—*but we cannot ignore what our choices mean.*

So turn off the lights, use fuel-efficient transportation, hang your clothes to dry, heat your water and power your home by the sun, eat less or no meat, write to politicians, buy products that are produced in environmentally responsible ways . . . do whatever you can to be a good steward of the environment. This is loving our neighbors.

For more information and to see Tuvalu photos, go to <http://tckctck.org/2011/03/photos-rising-king-tides-tuvalu/>

Attention Everyone!

CCU

December 3rd

Vendor Craft Fair

on CCU grounds ...
just in time for Christmas!

Fair Chair: Jan Stiles, 235-0786

Needed:

- **Vendors, \$35 per booth—**
Applications available at www.ccukailua.org or in the church office
- **Baked Goods—**talk with coordinator Susan Wilson about what you'd like to bake
- **Plants—**coordinator Claire Schrader suggests planting now; also share with Claire what you plan to provide

~Proceeds from this Fair
to support
CCU's 2011 Operating Budget~

Memories

by Rosemary Allen

Our heartfelt loss recently of one of CCU's most faithful and long-time members brought a myriad of memories to us. Jim Young joined Christ Presbyterian Church in 1966 (some years before we became a union church family as CCU in 1974). His enduring energy & loyalty to CCU worship, activities & projects through the years reminds us of so many people & happenings—a few sad, but mostly happy!

An every Sunday memory of CCU's choir has featured the back row of bass voices personified by Jim, Paul Belanger, George Wyman & Bill Muench. All of these singers plus most other choir members were featured in the well-remembered CCU musicals (off-Broadway a few miles!) produced by the late Camille Almy. Jim & other CCUers put in hours & hours doing the backstage work of building scenes, gathering props & all the necessities for a successful production.

Another musical memory came about choir talents—this time with women's voices. Since the '90s Jane Muench, Donna Bean & Marian Heidel have sung as a great trio in the musicals, worship & special events. Also solo voices as Clancy Lyman, Paul Belanger & Dianne Brookins, plus John Stiles' trumpet in recent years have provided many melodic moments for all of us. Thanks to Doc Wilson, CCU's director of music, I'm sure musical memories will continue—on & on.

Much of the practical "works" of CCU is carried by the church council—elders & pastor. Jim served on the Council in earlier years—often with building maintenance as his area of responsibility. At present our active ("ruling") elders are Melissa Belanger, Dianne Brookins, John Heidel, Jane Muench, John Stiles, Paul Snipes & Peter Tchou. Pastor Kerry is the moderator.

Newer CCU members may not know that in earlier years we had a very active Christian Education program for children & youth (that's why we have so much building space, originally devoted to classrooms!). Jim & many others of us were teachers & group leaders on Sundays & other times. Recently I encountered in the storeroom a model disciples fisherman's boat and a small clay Palestinian home with a hinged roof panel through which a "sick man" could be lowered so Jesus, in the crowded room below, could heal him. Jim & the children made these settings for telling the New Testament stories—many years ago. The Youngs also provided a wonderful Lanikai backyard for Sunday School picnics—beautiful big trees for climbing and swinging!

Many CCUers have continued in an educational mode each week—but on the adult level. The Heidels & the Madisons (Jerry & Leilani) have been leaders in recent years, the rest of us (including Jim) "inquiring" students.



JIM YOUNG
April 19, 1922
October 22, 2011

One of the CCU kitchen crew's favorite memories of Jim concerns our favorite potluck suppers. Pat Gilbert ("kitchen chief") says that Jim always brought a pan of fried chicken, with tongs provided for serving. CCU is fortunate to have lots of such "good cooks," but I'm not getting into that list!

Probably many of us have a favorite picture-memory of Jim Young—on a Saturday morning—riding that noisy old big lawnmower cutting CCU's grassy lawn & borders. Or perhaps raking up the leaves from the parking lot—taking care of CCU in so many ways. And remembering old timers & new comers each week.

We're so thankful for such memories!

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.

*** T Prayer = Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Date	Name	Duty
11/6	Mary Stone & Lola Mae McAvoy	Ushers/Greeters
	TBA	Morning Prayer
	Chelsea Anderson	Scripture Reader
	John Heidel	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
11/13	Cathy Lyman	Ushers/Greeters
	Wendy Teixeira	Morning Prayer
	Leilani Madison	Scripture Reader
	Melissa Belanger	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
	Jane Muench	
11/20	Loren Wilson & Alice Folkart	Ushers/Greeters
	Connie Mitchell	Morning Prayer
	Keith Zeilinger	Scripture Reader
	Peter Tchou	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
11/27 1st Sun. of Advent	Jon & Beth Davidann	Ushers/Greeters
	Dick Walenta	Morning Prayer
	Bill Muench	Scripture Reader
	Dianne Brookins	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up

November Communion Preparation: Mary Ann Wyman
November Tellers: Rennie Renfroe (all Sundays)
Paul Haring 11/6 & 13; Clancy Lyman, 11/20 & 27

November Birthdays

Peter Tchou	5
Angyl Magbee.....	7
Rennie Renfroe.....	11
Jessica Brookins.....	23
Jane Muench.....	28

November Anniversaries

November Flower Calendar

Nov. 6	Brookins
Nov. 13	Open
Nov. 20	Grogan
Nov. 27	Tchou

CCU Vision Statement (2/14/10)

*To be a vibrant witness
to Christ's inclusive love,
supporting spiritual growth
and social justice.*

**WAHIAWA CHRISTIAN CHURCH INVITES
CHRIST CHURCH UNITING**
to join them in their

BIG ISLAND TRIP
February 17-20, 2012
President's Day Weekend

- Staying at Kilauea Military Camp
- Group site-seeing
- Group Sunday worship

Make the following flight reservations:

Hon. To Hilo: Hawaiian Flight 360,
departing 2/17/12 at 4:57pm
Hilo to Hon: Hawaiian Flight 263,
departing 2/20/12 at 4:12 pm

RSVP to Mark Dahilig ---
email: markdahilig@gmail.com or tel: 626-2530—before December 31, 2011