



October 2011

“The Messenger of Love”

Volume 15 Issue 9

Ka Elele Aloha

Christ Church, Uniting Disciples and Presbyterians
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Features

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The November Newsletter information deadline is October 27th.
Please have information into the office by that date.

October Worship:

10/2, World Communion Sunday, 1 Cor 11:23-26
“The Cup of Blessing”

10/9, Phil. 4:1-9
“Keep On Keepin’ On”

10/16, Matt. 22:15-22
“Give Back to God the Things that are God's”

10/23, 2 Cor. 9:7-8,
“Sharing the Good Work”
Commission Elders will share the work and ministry done throughout CCU this year . . .

10/30, All Saints' Sunday, Matt. 5:1-12 “Blessed”

10/2 World Communion Sunday— CCU receives PC (USA) Peacemaking & CC (DOC) Reconciliation Offerings

Message from Pastor Kerry . . .

In 1 Corinthians 4:1 Paul writes what is one of my favorite verses:

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.
(1 Cor. 4:1-2).

In simple yet elegant terms Paul sums up the ministry of the church, its leaders and members.

First, we are servants, or helpers of Christ. As a community of faith we serve one another, we strive to meet one another's needs and accommodate our wants. However, this is not the primary call of the church. Yes, church is about loving and serving one another, but serving Christ is about being messengers of the Good News to people outside the walls of the church. Serving Christ, as Jesus tells his followers is about feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, visiting the sick and imprisoned. What we are doing within these walls is equipping ourselves for work outside these walls.

Second, according to Paul, we are “stewards of God's mysteries.” I don't know about you, but I find that beautiful and intimidating at the same time! The life of faith is not simple. We are not called to offer simple answers to the difficult questions of life. We are not called to be people with all the answers and everything figured out. We ARE called to be caretakers of the wonderful gifts we are given, in life and in faith. God's gifts of love, grace, presence, redemption, even life itself. Can any of us fully explain or understand these things? No, but we are stewards of these great mysteries. These are the gifts that we carry around with us and are called to offer and share with one another, with our community, with the world!

Too often in the church we only equate stewardship with money. Every church has

needs, has a budget, has line items such as insurance, electricity, and payroll. Giving our money to meet the church's needs and budget are important. But the question for us as stewards is how can we continue to be trustworthy managers of finances and ministry? How are we doing at funding ministry? The financial health of the congregation can empower and strengthen us to do ministry, to be the presence of Christ to a hungry, thirsty, hurting world. The purpose of stewardship is not a balanced budget, the purpose of the church is not to “get ahead.” The purpose of stewardship within the church is to do ministry using our gifts of money, time, and talents.

In the months that I have been your pastor I see so many ways in which the people of our congregation are faithful stewards. Financially, I have seen the great care taken to make sure that money is spent wisely and responsibly and that expenses are kept in keeping with income. I have also seen wonderful examples of the stewardship of service Sunday after Sunday. I see so many people offering their time, skills and energy to one another, as well as to others outside these walls. This church does so much both in small ways—with notes, phone calls and time—and in big ways—with gestures of generosity, hard work, volunteering evenings and precious spare time. I also celebrate the ministry of our commissions who minister in innumerable ways.

I believe the coming year will bring challenges and opportunities. I believe we will be called to step out in faith. I also believe God has given us more than enough of what we need to minister faithfully, to be trustworthy servants and stewards.

Gratefully yours,

Pastor Kerry





CCU FUN(D) NIGHT
Sunday, Oct. 23rd
5:30 pm @ CCU

Featuring Broadway Musical Review

Everyone's Invited to the Celebration!!!
In the "Rainbow Room" at CCU (sanctuary)

Please bring your completed Pledge Card.

5:30 pm

Wine & Dupus

6—8 pm

Gala Potluck Dining

Broadway Musical Review

Pledge Card Receipt & Tally

**On the Sign-up Sheet posted in the CCU Breezeway,
please indicate your intention to attend
and the POTLUCK FOOD ITEM you will most likely bring. Mahalo!**



About Presbyterians

... *Why did (do) I go to a Presbytery Meeting?*

by Marian Heidel

The Presbytery of the Pacific held one of their six meetings of the year on September 24th at St. Peters By the Sea Presbyterian Church in an area called Rancho Palos Verdes.

First, ***Why DID I attend?*** Because the Presbytery has a mission funding grant program, the Lulu Stevens Grant, and they wanted to hand over a \$5,000 check to CCU to continue helping us and Family Promise with the houseless program. They plan to send another \$5,000 if we identify additional needs (i.e. 1st & last month rent deposits, bus passes, etc.). They COULD have mailed the check, but it seemed the appreciative thing to do (even though I didn't get a chance to tell more about the program to those present). **THANK YOU, PRESBYTERY OF THE PACIFIC!!**

Second, ***Why DO I attend Presbytery meetings?*** Because it makes me realize afresh that my church is part of a bigger operation, a bigger vision. As a small church with its own inward focuses often being foremost, I need to be reminded that there are a lot of other church congregations uniting to give their resources (money & talented people) to create programs of education, spiritual development, and missions of relief and justice. And the Presbytery is an integral part of a larger Church organized as the denomination of the Presbyterian Church (USA), with its national and international ministries. We can do greater work when we pool our resources. Meeting and listening to other church folk on goals we have in common inspires and strengthens me.

What happened at this Saturday morning meeting? The meeting focus was Mission. To learn more in depth, I invite you to see report, "The Day After," posted on the bulletin board as well as take a look at the few brochures on the table as you exit the sanctuary.

**Mahalo nui loa, Marian,
for attending
the 9/24 Presbytery Meeting
& receiving in person
the \$5,000 check granted
to CCU
for Family Promise work!!!
From your CCU Friends**

Meeting Summary:

The Committee on Ministry presented **Erin Martin Tamayo** to be examined for ordination and Sunghoe "**Sean**" **Kim** to be examined for candidacy for the ministry. Both answered questions from the floor. There were several other "inquirers" and "candidates" in the congregation.

The Presbytery called for **mandatory boundary training** for all minister members, to be completed by the end of 2012.

A **video shared the experiences of some members of the Nicaragua Partnership Team that had just visited Nicaragua.** CEPAD, a Nicaraguan ecumenical Christian ministry who has been helping the poor since 1972, invited churches of the Presbytery of the Pacific to get acquainted with the rural area west and north of Leon.

We **heard from four leaders in Presbyterian global missions:**

Rev. Hunter Farrell, director of Presbyterian World Mission, the arm of the denomination, overseeing all aspects of mission service and recruitment and coordinating our missionary work with ecumenical and international church partners.

Rev. Dr. Rob Weingartner of the Outreach Foundation (www.theoutreachfoundation.org). This organization connects individuals and congregations in the US. with global partners.

Rev. Bill Young of the Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship (www.pff.net) which "mobilizes congregations to bring the good news into cultures where the church has yet to take root."

Dr. Maria Zack, interim director of the Medical Benevolent Foundation (www.mbfoundation.org). The MBF works to provide hope and healing to those most in need, working in more than 100 hospitals and clinics throughout the world, bringing financial help, donation of supplies, and training.

The main message from all these speakers is that we approach our mission work as partners, building relationships: learning from our global mission partners, who have insight and faith to inspire and inform us. Instead of going to take our expertise, our know-how, our money, to benefit them, we also need to learn from them. Dr. Zack put it well: the three main things we have to offer the global Church is our (1) presence, (2) our ignorance, and (3) our knowledge, tempered with humility.

Following the meeting, at lunch we listened to and asked questions of a panel including the four speakers, plus another member of the Outreach Foundation, and Heidi Gamble, mission advocate for our Presbytery. We were also honored to have with us Fred Stock, a missionary in Pakistan since 1956 (and whose son is still a missionary there), who pled with us to pray for and help the Pakistanis, millions who have been flooded out of their homes these past weeks.

Membership Commission . . .

Rev. Frank Wulf, CCU's Presbytery of the Pacific pulpit exchange minister on September 18th, delivered wonderful news from the Presbytery—CCU has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Lulu Stevens Foundation for its work with the Family Promise program and will soon be awarded an additional \$5,000 grant !!!



Fun and interesting to all who attended was a potluck lunch & conversation with Frank following worship. We learned Frank is pastor of a uniting congregation, such as we; his church unites Methodists & Presbyterians (USA). His church (United University Church in L.A.) is completely surrounded by University of Southern California campus & buildings. The University even rents space from the church. They have recently gone to a bi-lingual worship service.

October Adult Study . . .

Our sessions in response to a viewing of the documentary "The Power of Forgiveness" have been so engaging that we have extended this study through the first Sunday in October. We'll conclude on October 2 with a speech given by Bishop Desmond Tutu at the Washington Cathedral following the tragedy of 9-11. Class is 8:30 am in the Ohana Room.

Starting on Sunday, October 9 we will read "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. Books will be available after worship on October 2 or in the church office. 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!**

CCU Quarter Notes

from Director of Music Doc Wilson

Members of the Chancel Choir and myself look forward to participating in the Oahu Choral Festival, October 7, 8 & 9th. Guest clinician Dr. Edith A. Copley is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff where she conducts the highly acclaimed Shrine of the Ages Choir and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting and graduate choral literature.



Everyone 's Invited !!
Sat., 10/15, 9:30 am,
Ohana Room
MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION
GATHERING
~agenda forthcoming~

Witness Commission News . . .

from John Heidel, Witness Commission Co-chair



CCU is grateful for the efforts of our Green Team and the leadership of Charlene Hosenfeld that resulted in the awarding to CCU of the "Green Chalice Certificate" from the Disciples of Christ denomination. We will continue looking for ways to conserve energy and reduce our "carbon footprint." One possibility is following the guidance of Hawaii Interfaith Power and Light to become part of the "Cool Congregations" project which enables individual households to be "greener".

CCU has been given a \$5,000 grant from the Lulu Stevens Foundation administered by the Presbytery. This money will be used for our ministry to our houseless guests from Family Promise. An additional grant of \$5,000 will be given in November.

We have been invited to participate in the 9th Annual "Walk-Run for Hunger" sponsored by the River of Life Mission. It's a 5K run/walk around Ala Moana Beach Park and Magic Island on Saturday, October 22nd; registration begins at 7:00 am and the walk/run at 8:00am (\$15 fee). For more info and to register, call 524-7656 x229.

At our meeting on September 24, we agreed/decided on the allocation of \$5,000 of our Witness money for outreach and mission to:

- Institute for Human Service
- FACE (Faith Action for Community Equity)
- Counseling and Spiritual Care Center of Hawaii
- Kahumana
- The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii
- Hawaii Habitat for Humanity
- Hawaii Coalition Against Legalized Gambling
- Ed & Miriam Noyes Mission in the Congo

We will have one more meeting to allocate the remainder of the funds.



Ed & Miriam Noyes

Kudos to Family Promise Volunteers of September 4-18

from Marian Heidel, F.P. Coordinator

Congratulations to our 1st-timers—Andrew Davis, Oliver Kelso, and Brigitte Snyder! Andrew worships with us, and Oliver and Brigitte come from the Yoga group that meets in our building. We are delighted to add you to our company.

A special Mahalo to St. Anthony Catholic Church of Kailua for providing the volunteers for the 2nd week we hosted our houseless families. They were an enthusiastic, generous group, and Tracy Hoevel did yeoman's duty as coordinator. I heard that St. Anthony's will be re-joining the Windward Rotation as a host church . . . they really must have enjoyed it (or maybe figure it will be easier to take care of the families at their own place?)!

We had two birthdays celebrated during the 2nd week—Maile's and Elizabeth's; St. Anthony's threw them quite a party! And one of the families moved into their own apartment during the second week: James, Shashana, Jamison and Elizabeth. Hurray!

Grateful appreciation goes to our stalwarts from CCU, Shambala Meditation, and Mevlevi Order of America:

Overnighters—

Aisha Allen & David Arai
 Beth & Jon Davidann
 Alice Folkart & husband
 Marian & John Heidel
 Leilani & Gerry Madison
 Doreen Redford
 Oliver Kelso & Brigitte Snyder

Dinner Hosts—

Melissa & Paul Belanger
 Barbara Hicks
 Katie & Megan Kellogg
 Jan & John Stiles
 Gaye Sulkey
 Carol & David Shibata

Pat Gilbert gathered the dinner hosts, food supplies, and she, Jean Tsuji and Gerry Madison cleaned and set up the kitchen-turned-dining room.

Melissa Belanger, Andrew Davis, Beth & Eli Davidann, John & Marian Heidel, George Wyman, and 8 to 10 volunteers from St. Anthony's helped set up the rooms on Sunday after church Sept. 4, while Beth organized the families and more volunteers from St. Anthony's to put everything away on the 18th. Many thanks go to the Madisons, Wymans and an unknown party who laundered the sheets the first week and to St. Anthony's for washing the bedding after the second week.

And thank heavens for Dee Ann Smith, who on a moments' notice came and washed all the screens and windows of the rooms!

As you can see, it "takes a village" to provide. **Get ready! Our turn comes 'round again on Nov. 20!!**



**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:
 826-2530—before December 31, 2011

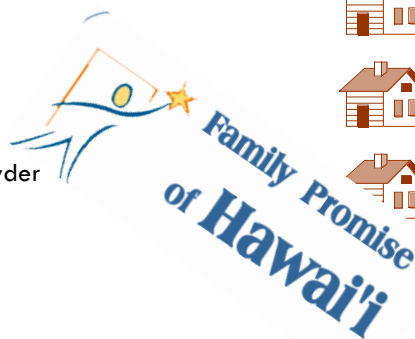


Photo courtesy of Bill Muench



easy to grow: pohinahina (left) & akia (right)

Invasive vs. Native Plants

from Charlene Hosenfeld of CCU Green Team

The use of native plants in Hawaii landscapes has recently been receiving a lot of attention. The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH) has a Native Plant Initiative with a goal of reversing the decline of native plants by promoting their use in their original range of distribution and increasing their use in the built environment from <1% to 30%.

The LICH produced Invasive Species Guidelines and an Invasive Plant List effective May 1, 2009. A recent check of landscape nurseries (which excluded 'big box' stores' nurseries) found that in 11 of 134 Maui landscape nurseries, invasive plants were being propagated and sold; this was also true in 18 of 134 Oahu nurseries.

According to LICH, "zero invasive plants is the goal but we are making progress." The LICH seems to be taking a proactive stance in self-regulating and monitoring the use of invasive vs native plants in their industry.

Why plant natives? They provide habitat for native birds and wildlife and are generally low maintenance and drought resistant. Planting Hawaii's natives is a small step in preserving them, in preserving our forests and in restoring plant diversity.

See www.landscapthawaii.org for the Invasive Species Guidelines and the complete Invasive Plant List, including the botanical and common names of the plants.

CCU Thinks Green Take-Home Message:

Before you buy or plant, check to see if the plant is on the invasive species list. If you hire a landscaper, make known your commitment to native and/or non-invasive species. Encourage local nurseries to discontinue sale of invasive species and to offer a wide range of natives. And plant them!

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~

October 2011

CCU Event Schedule:

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

- 10/1, 8am Men's Breakfast @ Honey's @ Koolau Golf Club
- 10/2, 8:30-11:30am HI-5 container pick-up @ CCU parking lot
- 10/2, 8:30 am & 11:45 am & succeeding Sundays Adult Church at Study (see pg. 4 for details)
- 10/2, 10am worship World Wide Communion Sunday Peacemaking/Reconciliation offering received
- 10/7-9 Oahu Choral Festival @ St. Andrew's Cathedral
- 10/8, 10:30 am Women's Aloha Fellowship Brunch
- 10/12, 7pm Stated Council Meeting
- 10/15, 9:30 am (O) Membership Commission Gathering
- 10/23, 5:30 pm CCU Fun(d) Night / Pledge Night



Memories

Ka Elele Aloha, Oct. 2011, page 7

by Rosemary Allen

What a lovely evening we had last Friday with "Grassfire Fellowship" out in the church yard—enjoying roasting hot-dogs, making s'mores, visiting and singing! Loren Wilson's



campfire was just right for roasting (well, even he couldn't control the wind direction or teary eyes). And everything tasted so good.

The gathered grassy circle was more an oblong this year due to the church yard's re-definition, but it worked well for both roasting and singing. Doc Wilson and Lauren Medeiros, musicians & guitarists "par excellence," kept the rhythms & tunes flowing & the open sky above stayed clear & beautiful.

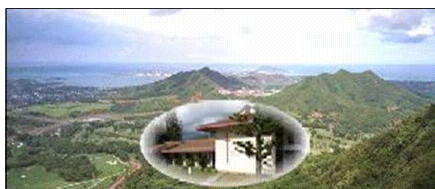
Grassfire is one of the few "out of doors" things CCU does as a church family—and everyone seems to thoroughly enjoy it. Elder Dianne Brookins got the date set and acted as purchasing agent. (*Is this the only event that is not potluck & CCU budget provides the hotdogs, etc.?*) Deacons Pat Gilbert & Gerry Madison & crew managed the kitchen necessities & everyone managed fellowship and singing.

In earlier years, when CCU had an active children's program each week, outdoor ventures were more common. I recall one Sunday when Bill Muench had his boys' class climbing one of the big trees & playing parts in a crowd acting out the Zaccheus & Jesus story. Other Sunday class activities included excursions to the heiau or even just across the highway for larger space events. As many of you remember, those lively children enjoyed movement, both in and out of doors!

Our beach park worship service a few weeks ago revived a tradition CCU observed in earlier years. Usually in summer we took one Sunday service out of doors—at the beach parks or even up at Maluhia near the mountains. At least once we went down to Bellows on a Sunday (one of our military family members made us eligible to visit).

Of course the parking lot at CCU hosts a lot of outdoor activity. Besides parking, some of us remember events out there including huge "garage" sales some years ago (and just ask Jan Stiles about plans for a vendor craft fair in December). Paul & Sharon Dzakowic "honcho"-ed the garage sales. A real "fun"—but hard working—series of events in that parking lot was building and decorating floats for the Kailua 4th of July parades a few years ago under the direction of Jeff Lansdown. And on the 4th some of us rode on the canoe & trolley we had decorated. (I think we won a prize, too.)

~ CCU ~
CHRIST CHURCH
UNITING DISCIPLES
AND PRESBYTERIANS



a faith community
witnessing to
Christ's inclusive love,
nurturing spiritual growth
and engaging
in social justice ~

1300 Kailua Rd., Kailua, HI 96734
Phone: (808) 262-6911
Office email: ccu@hawaii.rr.com
Website: www.kailua.org
Pastor: Kerry Grogan

A
current
CCU
flyer
is
available
for
distribution
and
can be
found
on
welcome
table
at rear
of
Sanctuary.

Lay & Elder Worship Assignments for October

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
10/2	Mary Stone & Wendy Teixeira	Ushers/Greeters
	Marian Heidel	Morning Prayer
	Bill Muench	Scripture Reader
	Jane Muench	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
10/9	Cathy Lyman	Ushers/Greeters
	Wendy Teixeira	Morning Prayer
	Paul Snipes	Scripture Reader
	Jan Stiles	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
	Peter Tchou	
10/16	Mark & Connie Mitchell	Ushers/Greeters
	Claire Schrader	Morning Prayer
	TBA	Scripture Reader
	Dianne Brookins	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
10/23	Jon & Beth Davidann	Ushers/Greeters
	Beth Davidann	Morning Prayer
	Jon Davidann	Scripture Reader
	John Stiles	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
10/30	Loren Wilson	Ushers/Greeters
	Wendy Teixeira	Morning Prayer
	John Heidel	Scripture Reader
	Paul Belanger	T Prayer/Serve Comm./Bldg Lock-up
	Melissa Belanger	

**October Communion Preparation: 10/2 Susan Wilson;
10/9, 16, 23, 30 Joyce McGuire
October Tellers: Jon Davidann, Clancy Lyman**

October Birthdays

Loren Wilson.....	5
Dennis Peters	9
Cynthia Tchou	11
Connie Mitchell.....	12
Austin Tom	21
Michael Medeiros.....	27

October Anniversaries

Connie & Mark Mitchell	3
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October Flower Calendar

Oct. 2	M. Stone
Oct. 9	Open
Oct. 16	Lola Mae McAvoy
Oct. 23	Burgoyne
Oct. 30	Open

People and Places

Reverend Fiona Lillie, who served as CCU parish exchange minister for the month of July 2005, expects to be with us in worship in mid to late October, most likely 10/23. She and our then pastor Buddy Summers exchanged pastorates, Buddy serving the Stromness Parish Church, Orkney Islands, Scotland. We said thank you and farewell at an all-church luau . . . here we are, ladies, with Fiona in 2005.

