

Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

APRIL 2019

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

By Rev. Sarah Jones

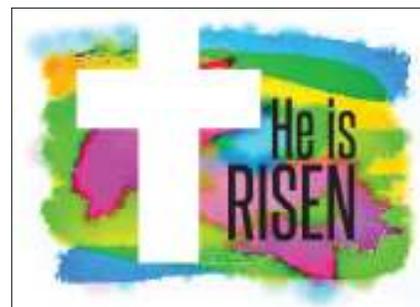
As we approach Easter Sunday and the opportunity to celebrate Christ's Resurrection, I'd like to share with you one of my favorite quotes on the Resurrection from Rev. Frederick Buechner. He says, "The Resurrection teaches us that the worst thing is not the last thing."

The season of Lent, especially as it falls across the months of March and April, is always a poignant time for me because it marks the dates of the last weeks of my father's life, when he was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia on March 19, 2012, and died (rather suddenly) in the hospital on April 12, 2012. Sometimes I will be staring wistfully into space, wondering why I feel kind of melancholy, and then I will realize that we are in that "shadow" period, of the weeks leading up to his death.

Thankfully, I had a full, beautiful day with him on the Monday after Easter Sunday that year. I took the day off from work and sat with him in his hospital room for most of the hours of the day, I think until he kicked me out, telling me I'd better get back to work. I'll be forever grateful for that day with him, for the chance to rub his feet and share laughter and tears, not having any real sense that in just three days, his earthly life would be over.

Since that time, of course, there have been many ups and downs, and my life has changed in ways I couldn't have imagined. I would *NEVER* have

predicted I'd be living on Kaua'i one day! I still miss my dad each and every day, but I have come to see that these words of Rev. Buechner are true. One of the worst things that ever happened in my life was indeed not the last thing; God has continued to lead and guide me and my family and to give us new opportunities to live out our faith in the world, to continue my dad's legacy of ministry and compassion. I pray for each of you that the Resurrection would hold the same promises this Easter season!



EASTER SCHEDULE

April 14, Palm/Passion Sunday

Come to church and enjoy a youth Easter skit. The Sunday School will conduct the entire Sunday service.

April 18, 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday

Join us for this Christian holy day service on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the foot washing and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. It is the 5th day of Holy Week.

April 19, Good Friday, 11 a.m. Moore Hall

Join the Koloa Union youth and their friends to color Easter eggs followed by a hot dog lunch.

April 21, Easter Sunday

6 a.m. Sunrise Service may be in the works Easter egg hunt after Sunday service. The Alan Akana Gallery will be closed today.



ALOHA HOUR

- April 07—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- April 14—Giovanni Osuga Strong
- April 21—Odo Honjo Dunas
- April 28—Ito Rebb Shim
- May 05—Smythe Foley McCoubrey
- May 12—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares
- May 19—Ramos Baptiste Stoner
- May 26—Giovanni Osuga Strong

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST

Join church members and friends for a relaxing and fun breakfast at...

Kalapaki Joe's Poipu

April 23, 2019

7:30 a.m.



USHERS

APRIL

- Doug Duvauchelle
- Michael Horning

MAY

- Debbie Gunning
- Karen Johnson

LAYREADERS

- April 07—Graceleanor Baird
- April 14—Kei Osuga
- April 21—Michael Horning
- April 28—Shryl Matias
- May 05—Doug Duvauchelle
- May 12—Suzanne Pearson
- May 19—Jean Odo
- May 26—Virginia
- June 02—Rosemary
- June 09—Karen Johnson

Prayers for comfort and strength for immigrants and refugees, and victims of natural disasters and victims of bullying; prayers of comfort and healing for Dee, Mamie Powelson, Willie K, Rev. Richard Kamanu, Todd, Karl Bartels, Susan, Martha, George, Som, Tara Foley, Val, Larry Chaffin, Gary Struwe, Lizzie Macaninch, Betty Bell, Kai Johnson, Rick, Danny Finnigan, Casey Moody, Kitty Tyler, Judyth Foley, Jane, Mark Schory, Skip Hance, Kilane, Judy Hunt, Galen Kaohi, Mahina Anguay, Bobbie Bulatao-Franklin, Van Pribilovics, John Pekoe, Rowan, Cori Swanson, Rochelle and John Lorenzo, David Vitt, Francisca Padua, Kanaina Smythe, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Steven, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Ted & Tamiko Asahi, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers of comfort and peace for the families of Carol Ann Davis, Jack Odo, Kevin Gokan, Gail Lee, Suellen Nesbit; prayers of peace and comfort for Shyrl's daughter Margo and Miyeko Yamane.

PASTORAL SUPPORT THIS SPRING

While Kahu is on Sabbatical...

As always, our Deacons are available to assist church members in crisis. If you experience a serious illness, injury, personal loss or death in your family, please contact any one of our Deacons for support. Christine Kube is the newly elected Chair of our Board of Deacons, voted by the Deacons themselves (as stated in the church's constitution and bylaws). You may contact her at 332-8335. Also, Rev. Sarah Jones will be providing the message on Sunday mornings three times a month for the next three months; and she is also available for pastoral care. Her number is 631-2444 and can also be reached at Wilcox Medical Center in Lihue where she serves as chaplain.

PARKING NOTE

Thanks to all who have been making parking more manageable on Sunday morning! Those who are carpooling and parking at the school and/or on Waikomo Road have made a big difference in creating room for the elderly and those who have trouble walking.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Maika `i Hana Hou!

Kahu's and Penny's offices have been painted! The new floor in the church office is completed. The ladies' breezeway bathroom and men's bathroom have been painted and look fabulous with new bamboo floors. The new ladies' bathroom is up and running (although no privacy partitions have been installed yet). All projects are near completion. Thank you for your patience during construction and for everyone's generosity to the capital campaign to make these projects possible!

SCENT-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We have members, and a kahu, who are highly allergic to various scents, often resulting in coughing, sneezing difficulty breathing and speaking, as well as other symptoms. Heavy perfumes and colognes are particularly troublesome. We are requesting that our church be, as much as possible, a "scent-free" environment during worship services, social activities and meetings. We realize that there is no way to keep all scents away, and we plan to continue having fresh flower arrangements each week and leis for special occasions, but we do ask everyone to be sensitive to the needs of those around them when it comes to perfumes, colognes and lotions.

SOCIAL OUTREACH

The committee met in February to review the current programs and discussed ideas for new projects. Present at this 1st meeting: past chair Judyth Foley; members Amber Strong, Suzanne Pearson, Graceleanor Baird, Katy & Joseph Morris, Sharon Mahaffey; Administrator Penny Osuga and Pastor Alan Akana. Members Missy Foley and Sharon McCoubrey were not able to attend.

Current social and community programs: Salvation Army Lunch Service (every 5th Wednesday during the year) Judyth Foley & Suzanne Pearson; Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes, stockings, gift cards, etc. Judyth Foley, Missy Foley, Sharon McCoubrey; spare change collection (used to purchase food items for holiday boxes) Judyth Foley; Love in Action (collection/distribution of blankets, pillows to Kauai's homeless) Suzanne Pearson; used stamp collection (for the UCC Women's Board of Missions) Graceleanor Baird; Christmas shoebox mission (sending useful items to international children in need) Bonnie Kakinami; Koloa flood relief (several thousand dollars donated by church members/friends bought gift cards and appliances for Koloa residents who were severely impacted by the April 2018 floods) Kahu Akana and Penny Osuga.

Future project ideas: Food collection, drive-thru, St. Raphael's church program, Koloa Elementary School classroom volunteers (mentoring, back packs with school supplies), Adopt-a-Family (the church would adopt a local family in need), Needs of People/Focus on Others. Spiritual Growth, Nutritional Growth, etc., Community Night workshops at local housing projects and to confirm being an Open and Affirming Church. Survey of church members: It is recommended we take a survey of our church members in an effort to see what other community/social outreach might be helpful. The Social Outreach Committee appreciates input from members and friends.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Sakimae, Chair

AUNTY NIELE'S NEWSY NOTES

By Penny Osuga

NOTE: Penny Osuga is Auntie Niele, our reporter for this column. Niele is the Hawaiian word for "nosy." If you have any news to share in this column, please contact Auntie Niele at the church office @ 742-6622 or through her church email address: kucpenny@gmail.com.

We did it!!! Again!!!! Gallup National Health poll rates HAWAII as the healthiest, happiest state!!!! "I judge no one!" said Jesus. Our talented choir sang a very creative Bon Voyage song to **Kahu!!!**



Thanks, **Rev. Sarah Jones**, for a wonderful Ash Wednesday service: amazing message, loved hymn # 186 (Dust & Ashes Touch Our Face) . Thanks to deacons, **Michael and Christine**, for pulling triple duty.



Wonderful having **Mike Canorro** (with friends **Jack & Marina**) here for his annual visit. Thank you, **Steve Stoner**, for stepping up to be our new "teller" which means he collects and counts the Sunday offerings.

Kathleen did a fun a capella Celtic Hawaiian-style song!!! It was on a windy Sunday when layreader **Edie** says: "our hair is being styled by **Mother Nature**". **Rev. Janet Long**: "Better than **Father Time!!!**" Congratulations to **Bill and Angela** as they welcome a brand new granddaughter, **Olivia**. **Dan and Naomi** flew off to **MLB Spring Training** in **Scottsdale Stadium**, Arizona. I am writing



this from Texas, visiting our 3 grand-boys who are sprouting like weeds, insatiable appetites, non-stop energy and full schedules!! And they are only 5-1/2, 7 and 9!! Thanks to volunteers who worked in the office while I was away: **Joni, Becky, Tiffany, Naomi**. Been in touch with former member,



Hoshi Sugawara, who is in rehab because she hurt her back. Love having **Ed and Carol Perrin, Forrest & Jenifer** here



for their annual visit. Thanks, **Tiff**, for organizing a fun afternoon at **Kauai Miniature Golf** in



Kilauea! **Christine**, with traveling cousins, **Aida & Judy**, who shared with us the most amazing macadamia nut pie (twice!). Remember my **Uncle Paul Okamura**? Here is his grandson, **Paul**



Okamura, visiting from California! Another fun **Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Tuesday** at church...Yummy pancakes and sausage. **Miss Kairi** liked the pancakes BUT **Caleb** was the winner!! He ate TEN pancakes for dinner! And we had the best attendance EVER—35 members and friends! We are so grateful. Our talented **Prayers & Squares** ladies presented **Larry** with a quilt. **Larry**



said he had the best night's sleep with his new quilt...**Pat, Steve & Yvonne** visiting him. Thanks to **Uncle Diki** for refinishing the benches—they look brand new!!! All-church breakfast: so much fun! **Evan Strong** helping the Aloha Hour crew





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KOLOA, HAWAII 96756

April 2019 NEWSLETTER



SUNDAY EVENTS

**10:30 a.m. Sunday School and
Worship Service**

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Alan Akana, Pastor
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Penny Osuga
Administrative Assistant
kucpenny@gmail.com

Kathleen Dahill
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KOLOA UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER

April 2019

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