

Kōloa Union Church

Hawaiian Identity • Island Hospitality

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2020

A NOTE FROM KAHU AKANA

GOOD NEWS FOR THE NEW YEAR

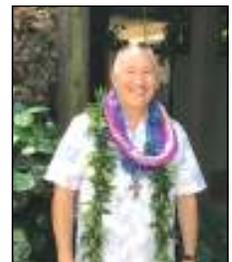
Dear Members and Friends of Kōloa Union Church:

As we begin a new decade, I wonder how the 20's will be remembered. When I think back to the previous century, each decade had one or two major events that defined it. The 10's were the decade of World War I. The "Roaring 20's" were known for economic prosperity and living with optimism as people believed that World War I was "the war to end all wars." The 30's were known for economic depression after the stock market crash of 1929. The 40's were the decade of the United States' involvement in World War II. My guess is that you can finish up the second half of the decade on your own without much effort.

Upon reflection, I also realized that all of the decades in which I lived have my own personal stamp on them. The 60's were my childhood. The 70's were my "youth." The 80's were the years I attended college and seminary. The 90's were my early days as an ordained minister and the starting of a family. The 00's were spent primarily as a stewardship and fundraising consultant for non-profit religious organizations. I am pretty sure that you too can come up with what each of the decades in which you lived were about for you.

When it comes right down to it, no one really has any idea of what the 20's are going to be like—for our world, our country or for us as individuals. There are just so many uncertainties before us. However, I am confident that the 20's will bring a lot of change—unexpected change for that matter, things that surprise us that we cannot anticipate. My intention as your *kahu* is to prepare our church for the changes that lie ahead of us and to equip our church to help its members for the changes we will encounter. When I think of the tools that we will need for this, the things that come to mind are courage, compassion, commitment to peace and understanding. I also think that the church can lead the way in our divided and divisive society by practicing the art of listening to one another—including those we disagree with on political, theological and social issues.

I am excited about the possibilities and opportunities that lie before us. I invite you to pray for our church and for one another as we prepare for whatever the 20's bring us!



Aloha nui loa!
Kahu Alan Akana

MEN'S BREAKFAST**Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m.**

The men of the church are enjoying their weekly winter breakfasts on Tuesdays (all but the 4th Tuesday of each month) at 7:30 a.m. at Kalapaki Joe's in Poipu. Church breakfasts for men and women will remain on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:30 a.m. at Holoholo Grill in the Kōloa Landing Complex.

**PRAYERS & SQUARES****1st Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.**

Prayers & Squares is a ministry promoting prayer using hand-tied quilts. Our motto: "It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers." To request a quilt for church members in crisis, call Debbie Gunning at 808-652-7899. P&S meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, 1-3 p.m., in Kahu's office. All sewers and non-sewers are welcome!

ALOHA HOUR

Jan 05—Ito Rebb Shim

Jan 12—Smythe Foley McCoubrey

Jan 19—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

Jan 26—Ramos Baptiste Stoner

Feb 02—Giovanni Osuga Strong

Feb 09—Odo Osuga Kube

Feb 16—Ito Rebb Shim

Feb 23—Smythe Foley McCoubrey

Mar 01—Sakimae Kakinami Gunning Mares

Mar 08—Ramos Baptiste Stoner

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**January 26, after Sunday Service**

The Congregation will meet on Sunday, January 26, after Sunday service for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Everyone is welcome! We ask members to attend in order to have a voting quorum. It is a time to vote on officers of the Church, Council members, Deacons, and Committee Chairs, review our budget for 2020, receive reports, share pertinent information, brainstorm and plan ways for Kōloa Union Church to have another successful year!

Committee chairpersons: send your annual reports to Penny electronically by January 17.

**USHERS****JANUARY**

Debbie Gunning

Karen Johnson

FEBRUARY

Rosemary Smythe

Kei Osuga

LAYREADERS

January 05—Sharon Mahaffey

January 12—Graceleanor Baird

January 19—Kei Osuga

January 26—Michael Horning

February 02—Shyrl Matias

February 09—Doug Duvauchelle

February 16—Suzanne Pearson

February 23—Jeannie Odo

Mar 01—Rosemary Smythe

Prayers for the Earth and its climate; for comfort & strength for immigrants and refugees, veterans, police officers, victims of gun violence, natural disasters and bullying; prayers for all those traveling this week; prayers of comfort and healing for Bradley Ceballos, Leroy, Bette MacLeod, Tom, Mimi Pagador, Ellen, Jim Nesbit, Glenn & Mona Ceballos, Lonnie Jackson, Lady Ipo and her `ohana, Clyde Fujikawa, Jim & Linda Taylor, Aimee, Loren, Mamie Powelson, Tara Foley, Gary Struwe, Lizzie Macaninch, Mark Schory, Rowan, Rochelle and John Lorenzo, David Vitt, Jose Bulatao, Ella Batalucco, Brenda, Jo Duvauchelle, Tiff & Kimo Marrotte; prayers for the family of Betty Irwin; prayers of comfort for Bobbie Bulatao-Franklin, Shyrl's daughter Margo.



VISITORS, PRAYERS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

In an effort to get into the flow of our worship service we are making very significant requests:
 (1) When it is time for visitors to introduce themselves, keep that time specifically for visitors;
 (2) Kōloa Union Church believes in the “power of pule (prayer)” and prayer requests are always encouraged and welcomed. Sometimes we aren’t able to get all names listed. Sometimes names are not offered. If you specifically would like a name listed, please see the deacon on duty;
 (3) Announcements should go through our church leaders who would make sure the announcements are important to the entire congregation and that they clearly reflect a major issue for the church; other announcements go to the Sunday bulletin, newsletter or website. Announcements should be clear, crisp and brief, not mini-sermons. We don’t want to take time away from music, prayer and preaching. It is definitely not a time “to take a moment of personal privilege” sharing opinions, ideas, viewpoints not relative to church.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, January 20 in observance of
 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 Monday, February 17, for Presidents’ Day.

**SALVATION ARMY LUNCH
 January 29**

Kōloa Union Church is scheduled to serve lunch at the Hanapepe Salvation Army facility on Wednesday, January 29. Volunteers who carpool usually meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. Please check in with Suzanne Pearson if you can assist.



CHURCH WORK DAY



Impromptu bowling night for church kids



FAREWELL PASTOR JEANNIE

KAUCC is hosting a mahalo celebration on January 28 as Pastor Jeannie Thompson will be leaving Kapaa UCC at the end of January. Lihue United Church Parish hall, 5:30 p.m. potluck dinner. Bring your favorite dish and memories to share.

HENRY OPUKAHA`IA SUNDAY

Sunday, February 23

Each year we collect a special offering in honor and in memory of “Henry O”, the first Native Hawaiian known to become a Christian. Henry Opukaha`ia is credited with motivating the early New England Protestants missionaries to move to Hawaii. The money collected supports the training of current and future clergy for Christian ministry by providing financial aid for seminary students.

**SHROVE TUESDAY/MARDI GRAS
 FAT TUESDAY/PANCAKE SUPPER**

February 25, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

It is the day before Ash Wednesday marked by feasting and celebration before the observance of the Lent fast. Started in the Middle Ages, restricted and perishable food was all consumed on Shrove Tuesday to avoid spoilage and waste. Join us for a pancake supper!



ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 26, 7 p.m.

We mark Ash Wednesday as the first day of Lent. It follows Shrove Tuesday. It is traditionally a time of fasting and prayer in preparation for receiving or reaffirming baptism at Easter.

*And now we welcome the new year.
 Full of things that have never been.....*

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.

Congratulations to **Nancy Murphy** as they welcome a new grandchild! And so happy having her back on island with son, **James**. **Don & Sharon Mahaffey** visited her dad as he celebrated his 96th birthday! They also went to Molokai for a few days. **Graceleanor's** grandson, an AF lieutenant, got married! And she will be a 1st time great-grandmother this spring!! **Tiffany** enjoyed a work conference in Phoenix, got to visit with our former pastor **Nani and Jerry Hill**. **Traveler's Readers** claims Kauai is the #9 best island in the US—I beg to differ. **Dan & Naomi & Bill & Angela**



Christmas tree, to **Joey** for another unique Christmas wreath decoration, **Rosemary** for the Advent wreath and the deacons for the beautiful poinsettias. Our **Prayers & Squares** group

presented **Betty & Uncle Diki** with prayer quilts to keep them warm this 'winter.' (*Hold on to hope and believe in the possibility that our best days are ahead of us*). Woo woo—**Palani's** doctoral dissertation proposal in ecology was accepted (at **Columbia**) and so he looks forward to more years of more hard work! He just flew in from England with GF **Isobel**! Thanks to the Monday Girl Scouts troop for cleaning the entry sidewalk and steps to **Kahu's** office. **Elizabeth Mares** enjoyed a trip to San Francisco then off to Paris!!!! The **Sakimae 'ohana** spent Christmas in SoCal with **Sarah** and family! Newsflash: the Honolulu economy spiked in early December as **Becky, Bonnie & Debbie** spent a couple days there shopping!! Had almost 30 of us singing Christmas carols at **Hale Kupuna** one afternoon! Very heart-warming/rewarding activity for us all. The **Itos** spent the holidays with friends and family in Washington. **Kelsey Duvauchelle** is home for the holidays, also **Spencer & Logan**!! **Kauai's Tunnels** and **Polihale** beaches are among the world's top 40!!! Thanks to all the families lighting Advent candles each Sunday. Enjoyed **Chris & Michelle Molina's** ukulele and singing: "From a Distance." Great having **Marie Buckner** back with us from Washington. Ran into **Paul and David Ueunten** at **Kiawe Roots**. Then they came to church with TWO of their Mom's famous chiffon cake!! Thanks to **Tiffany, Sunday School director**, and our church youth for another delightful



saw *Moulin Rouge* in New York!!! Thanks, **Shellee**, for her fabulous dance to "Imagine!" (*Prophetic imagination allows dreams to happen*). **Bridget** attended a ceremony at our nation's **Arlington National Cemetery** across



the Potomac River as **Bob** was laid to rest at our nation's most hallowed ground. We celebrated **Betty's** 97th birthday with a song and a cake.

Enjoyed having son.in.law & dtr, **Chris & Tara** home for 2+ weeks for Thanksgiving. Thanks to all for a super Thanksgiving lunch at church! Yummy for the tummy!! **Steve and Norma** celebrated Thanksgiving with their 1st grandson in California!! **Rosemary** is celebrating the completion of her house renovation! She now has a fully working kitchen (she still had delicious food for us @ Aloha Hour)! Thanks to our precious KUC **menehunes** for decorating the 10' tall

Christmas play—*“Mary Had a Little Lamb”* and their special song *“Friendly Beasts.”* The hard-working **Prayers & Squares** team has lovingly made quilts for **Aunty Chito** and **Toyo & Kathy Nishida**. Great having Denver sisters.in.law, **Irene & Sachiko**, visiting **Kei & me** for the holidays. Sorry I missed **Becky & Karen** as they were part of the **St. Michael’s** chamber music presentation!!! **KUC** welcomed 5 new members in 2020: **Steve & Norma Sparks, Penny Jessup, Michael Olsen, Belinda Bartels, Lee Anderson!** We are blessed indeed! Former members, **Clyde/Sarah Shiraki** visited Nova Scotia this year—they’re spinning the globe once again to see where to go on their next adventure. In spite of the wind and pouring rain, we had more than 100 attend our Christmas Eve candlelight service. The **Odo `ohana** occupied the “balcony seats” again LOL. **Chris and Steve** gifted us with a wonderful duet—*Christmas in Hawaii*. “What about the gifts of listening, paying attention and sharing?” **Judyth** spent the holidays in California—fun times. Always a highlight of our year when our “snowbird” friends start returning. Thanks to **Ellen Rhoda Hicks** for sharing her beautiful voice with us. Check out the latest edition of the magazine “**Kauai Dining.**” Then turn to pages 56, 66 and 69 for glowing write-ups on our favorite hang-out, **Kiawe Roots!** Enjoy the holiday pictures:



Kairi was THE BABY in the manger a few years ago!



Christmas skit: 'Mary Had a Little Lamb'



**KOLOA UNION CHURCH
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3289 POIPU ROAD
KOLOA, HAWAII 96756**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



**AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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

STAFF

**Rev. Dr. Alan Akana, Pastor
revdocakana@gmail.com**

**Penny Osuga
Administrative Assistant
kucpenny@gmail.com**

**Kathleen Dahill
Director of Music
kdahill@WildwdStudios.com**

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KOLOA UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER

January /February 2020

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