

DECEMBER 2019

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

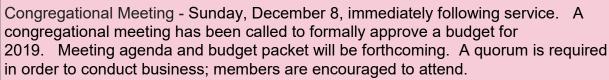
Pastor Joel Martyn

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP



KLC will be hosting 2 Christmas Eve services, beginning at 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. The 5:00 p.m. service will be geared toward families with children. All services will include the singing of Christmas carols and Holy Communion, along with a variety of special music at each service. Each celebration will conclude with the lighting of candles and the singing of Silent Night as our hula group dances the traditional Filipino 'Pandanggo sa llaw' ('Dance of Light'). Please accept our invitation to join us during this most holy time to worship Christ Jesus as we remember and celebrate his birthday through these worship opportunities.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION





KEIKI CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This year we will continue our tradition of purchasing gifts for the 125 children that are served at the Keolahou Food Pantry. We have been told what a difference our congregation has made in the lives of the families they serve. Your generosity touches them in so many ways through food, health items and by bringing Christmas joy to the children. You can help make a special Christmas for these children by either making a monetary donation or by purchasing a gift. The gift amount is \$15 per child. If you choose to make a monetary donation, we will do the shopping for you! Please see Renee or Nels Romerdahl if you would like to contribute to this project or for more details. Mahalo!

We are also in need of wrapping paper as gifts will be wrapped for parents at the Food Pantry. Partial rolls are accepted as well. Please see Renee or Nels Romerdahl if you would like to contribute to this project or for more details. Mahalo!





Joel Martyn

ALOHA FROM PASTOR JOEL

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; and we have beheld his glory, as of the only Son of the Father."

John 1:14

Dear Members and Friends,

It's the weekend before Christmas, and Bobby, in Boston, gets a call from his elderly father in Pittsburgh. The father says, "Bobby, your mother's making me crazy. I've had six decades of picking up after her. We're getting a divorce. Don't try to talk us out of it." Dad hangs up, and Bobby immediately calls Geraldine, his older sister in Hong Kong, waking her from a dead sleep. Within minutes, Geraldine—ever the older sister!—telephones their parents in Pittsburgh. In a shrill, rushed voice she says, "Dad, you and mom have been together for sixty years! How much time do you think you have left? I will not let you waste your golden years in bitter legal battles. I don't care what the issue is, we WILL work it out. Am I understood? Don't do a thing. Bobby and I will both be there on the first flights we can catch." Geraldine hangs up. The old man smiles at his wife and gently kisses her hand. "Well, my love, looks like they'll both be home for Christmas this year."

At Christmastime, presence is so much more important than presents! And that's the beauty of the Christmas story. In ancient times, when our ancestors gazed at the skies and pondered the hard questions of life, when they were confronted with the mysteries of birth, and death, and illness, and wonder, they found their best comfort not in tales of conquest and glory, nor in lofty wisdom and rituals, but in a simple tale of divine presence: A disgraced pregnant maiden, a dreaming carpenter, an inglorious barnyard birth, and the earthy, simple claim that God is with us; God is among us; God is not far off where we couldn't reach, but around us and within. The message of Christmas is that God does not remain in remote majesty and splendor, but becomes present in all our human travail, sharing our indignities, and outrage, and shame. God is present in all our laughter, and love, and in the satisfaction of a job well done. God with us! In that same old story, the angel names the child "Jesus," which means "God saves." And how does God save? By coming to us, being among us, walking beside us...and then commissioning us to go and do likewise.

There still aren't many sure answers to the hard questions of life: when a nation stands bitterly divided, when the doctor's news is bad, when the telephone rings in the middle of the night, when someone you love is angry, or bored, or scared, and you don't know why. We have no easy answers at times like these. But we can do what God does in Jesus; we can show up in the flesh. There's a living presence that will not leave us or forsake us, come what may in the years ahead. There's a living presence that might just turn up on your doorstep with a casserole, for that's one thing it means when we say that God comes to us in the flesh. It's called "incarnation," this belief that God's presence somehow flooded Jesus' humanity, giving us a glimpse of a human life filled with the holy. This is really what Christmas all comes down to: this belief that God enters into all the shame, and the blame, and the messiness of a beautiful and broken world. God is not far, but near. And we are called to be the same, getting our hands dirty, suffering with those who suffer, walking with the lonely.

And what does it all mean? Well, it's significant that we have The Keiki Klothing Exchange in our building right at Christmas, isn't it? We'll have families in need of many items, hosts, and listening ears at a time when we celebrate God's presence to us in Christ. Incarnation means reaching out in love to the disadvantaged, the sick, the aged, the very young, the helpless, and the hopeless, the anxious, the sad, perhaps even the least powerful of all, the animals God created but who get no vote, the world with its forests, and its plant life, and its oceans! Stand with them, for this is how God stands with humanity in Christ. Merry Christmas to you, Kihei Lutheran Church. It's a joy to be walking alongside you!

In Christ's Peace.

Pastor Joel Martyn

CHRISMONS

Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. The word is a combination of Christ and monogram (symbol). They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. They are often used on Christmas trees in churches and Christian homes.

Frances Kipps Spencer of Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia made the first Chrismons intending that visitors that came to her church would hear the story of Jesus explained through her original Chrismons.

Chrismons are traditionally colored white and gold – White is the liturgical color for Christmas and symbolizes that Jesus was pure and perfect. Gold symbolizes His majesty and glory. They can be made from many different materials such as syrafoam, plastic canvas, beads, pearls, ribbon, etc.

Here are some symbols that are common Chrismons and what they represent to Christians.

骨	The Cross symbolizes that Christians believe Jesus Christ died for everyone on a cross	*	The Butterfly is a symbol for transformation and the immortal soul
\propto	The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus) stand for Jesus	1	The Anchor Cross reminds Christian's that Jesus is the anchor of their faith
\Rightarrow	A Five Pointed Star represents the five wounds of Jesus on the cross		The Shepherd's Crook or Staff remembers that Jesus sometimes called himself a shepherd. It can also represent the shepherds who were the first people told about the birth of Jesus
e din	The Crown is the symbol that Jesus is King. It shows that Christians believe Jesus is ruler over heaven and earth		The Shell is a symbol for baptism. It reminds Christians of the water that they are baptized on. It is also a sign of Pilgrimage, as Pilgrims to the Holy Land (Israel) would use a shell as a drinking vessel
	The Dove is the symbol of peace and the Holy Spirit	ß	The Lamp and The Candle both represent that Christians believe Jesus is the Light of the world
	The Triquerta is made of three loops making a triangle representing the three parts of the trinity, God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit		The Cup or Chalice is a symbol of Communion. It also represents God's forgiveness
	The Angel reminds Christians of the angels who told the shepherds about the birth of Jesus. It can also represent the second coming of Jesus, which the Bible says will start with an Angel blowing a trumpet		The Lamb is a symbol for Jesus who is sometimes called "The Lamb of God"
\bigcirc	The Heart is a symbol of love and reminds Christians that God is Love	douterstock 125724080	The White Rose is a symbol for purity and can represent Mary

President's REPORT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Aloha KLC Ohana.

I would like to begin this report with a reminder regarding the upcoming congregational meeting on December 8, immediately following the service. The Finance Committee has done great work assisting council in developing a draft budget, but truly the budget belongs to the congregation. Please take time to read over the draft budget. Copies are available through the office, or at service on the ushers table. It will also be published in the weekly e-blasts. All members should make plans to attend this important meeting. If you have any questions regarding the budget you can speak with Vicki Lee, Treasurer, or anyone on the Finance Committee and/or Council.

By the time you are reading this, we will be well into the Advent season. The word Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "to come." When I think of Advent, I think of ketchup. In the late 1980s, the Heinz ketchup brand had a slogan "Good things come to those who wait". Television ads were riddled with famous actors from that time, waiting and waiting, and waiting for the ketchup to come out of the infamous glass bottle. I understand that the comparison is silly, but I think the point of the Advent season is "the waiting". Waiting is something we as a society don't do much anymore. We place an order for coffee and wonder why it is taking so long. Waiting is not something we humans do easily.

If your family is like mine, December marks when the family schedule gets intense. There are events, parties, concerts, etc., and then I find that the only thing I am waiting for - is for things to slow down. Observing Advent, helps me during this busy month to stay focused on what is to come, Immanuel/Emmanuel (God with us). The waiting helps me focus on God's timing; not my own.

Let us also remember, throughout our church business that we must sometimes wait and let God reveal to us. As we prepare to adopt the new year's budget and we wait to understand what God has in store for KLC in 2020, let us remember - "Good things come to those who wait".

Lamentations 3:25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

May God bless you and your ohana during this Advent and Christmas season.

Me ke aloha pumehana, Phil

REMINDER ABOUT FUNDRAISERS

Two men were stranded on a desert island after their boat was thrown off course during a vicious storm. One man loudly laments their predicament, certain that they will die. The other man calmly lounges under a palm tree. The first man asks the second man, "How can you be so calm when we are about to die?" The second man says, "I recently increased my pledge significantly; my church will find us!"

To help with the 2020 budget, we will boldly and unabashedly try various ways to get a little more of your money next year. Fundraisers will likely be a bit more frequent. Before you plan any wonderfully fun events, please remember that KLC's policy is to have **all** fundraisers (any request for money) approved by Council first. Council meets once a month, and if it isn't possible to get approval before the next meeting, Council can vote by email.

The reason for Council approval is that we don't want to overlap requests for funds or develop fundraiser fatigue. Council wants to choose the fundraisers that will fulfill the biggest needs.

Failure to adhere to the rules will result in a hefty fine – with the money going to the General Fund, of course!

4

NOVEMBER SECRETARY REPORT



Council Meeting of November 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the KLC Council was held at the church on November 19 with a quorum present. The meeting was opened with devotion by Dave and prayer by Phil.

Pastor's Report: As submitted President's Report: As submitted

(Both of these reports are available at the office or by asking Marilyn Hopkins.)

There is \$8,016 in the general fund. Completion of the church audit has been postponed due to illness of the auditor and a member of her family.

Action Items from the October meeting have the following updates:

Phil requested the County provide copies of all permits for the building addition since we are unable to find copies.

Pat is working with Valley Isle Builders to get lights working in the parking lot.

Vicki published an article regarding the need for all fundraisers to be approved by Council.

The Montessori school continues to be a good tenant and steward of the leased space. Shadi is starting the process to obtain an extension of the certificate of occupancy.

The sewer manhole plans have been approved by the County with a few minor changes. Engineering Dynamics Corp. will now prepare bid documents to send to contractors.

In an update to committee membership, Don Lee has agreed to be the chairperson for the parsonage subcommittee of the Property Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Council did a final review of the 2020 budget before presenting it for the December congregational meeting. Vicki moved to create a restricted fund for office supplies. Mo moved to submit the proposed 2020 budget to the congregation for approval at the December 8 meeting. Both motions passed.

A Ray Benson Fund Task Force was created with members Vicki Lee and Dave Reader, and also with voice only members Phil Proctor and Pastor Joel. Vicki will write an article for the eblast asking for others interested in joining this task force.

Keiki Klothing Exchange Committee will purchase a galvanized steel storage shed to be used to store KKE items.

Motion from Finance Committee was approved for any remaining funds in the two staff training budget items (#5209 Special Staff Training and #6913 Worship Team Staff Development) at the end of each year be put into a newly created restricted fund.

Property Committee will pay Duey Irrigation for the irrigation system upgrades/repairs.

Phil and Pastor Joel will apply for the Warner Trust Fund Grant through the Pacifica Synod.

Sarah Dickmeyer, Mark Haley, Larry Manning, Annalisa Figueroa, Tom and Julie Putnam, Don and Kate Sauer, and possibly Joyce Romero, Alika Nako'oka and Rebecca Nako'oka were accepted for membership at KLC.

The next regular meeting will be December 17. Keli closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Hopkins

FALL BAKE OFF/SALE

October was filled with anticipation of what the bakers were creating for the 2019 Fall Bake Off, held on Sunday the 27th. A record number of participants signed up for the fun and fellowship that would benefit the Outreach for our continuing ministry of the Keolahou Food Pantry.

There were cookies, pies, quick breads, cheesecake, cakes, and some special lilikoi marshmallows made by our own Pastor Joel for tasting by our esteemed judges (they all left on a sugar high). It was a close competition, with 5 people tying for second. Andrea Harris' Fall Classic: Pineapple Upside Down Cake was ultimately the winner. She graciously accepted her crown, given to her by last year's winner Cate Evert.

Everyone had a good time selecting their favorite goodies to take home or share with others. The total of \$784 was added to the generous donations received from the congregation as well as our visitors.

To date we have received \$1,917 in donations. The 100 boxes of prepackaged food for Thanksgiving put together by the Maui Food Bank (Mahalo to Keith Wright for purchasing the food and putting the boxes together) were unloaded on November 12th by Zel, Winfred, Doc & Mike. Mahalo to them for their help.

We are currently working on the hygiene bags to be dropped off by December 13th. If you would like to donate, we are still accepting the following: toothpaste, tooth brushes, individual soap, liquid soft soap, VO5 shampoo & hand sanitizer. Please bring those items to church as soon as possible. The earlier you provide, the earlier we can get the hygiene bags together.

I continue to be amazed by all the generosity of all those involved. Mahalo to everyone who make this AWESOME ministry come to life and for continuing God's plan to help those in need.

This could not take place without everyone's participation. Mahalo to the bakers, judges, the congregation for their financial contributions and for those who help on the day of the sale and beyond. A special mahalo to Jerry Kistler for providing a large tray of tiramisu from Fabiani's. Another big thank you to Cheri Beyersdorf for helping provide some of the participant prizes. Also a special mahalo to the 4 men who baked something for the contest Pastor Joel, Phil , Zel & Paul. Congratulations once again to Andrea for being selected the #1 baker and wearing her crown with pride.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Community Outreach Committee.

Margie Terluin











ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education is taking a break for the month of December. Mahalo to all those who have joined us for the past couple of months. Please stay tuned to the January Newsletter for what we will be doing next.





HAU'OLI LA HANAU! (Happy Birthday!)

Bob Schumacher	12/1
Keli Nelson	12/3
Barbara Rudow	12/4
John Bendon	12/5
Denise Ankrum	12/9
Luke Bendon	12/11
Diana Hill	12/11
Erik Jorgenson	12/11
Molly Lawson	12/12
Lisa Paulson	12/12
Eric Romerdahl	12/13
Sharon Schoenemann	12/13
Marilyn Fornwall	12/14
John Thorngren	12/14

Heather Ballaine	12/15
Melanie Spencer	12/16
Gretchen Romerdahl	12/20
Janice Porter	12/21
Hilary Glassel	12/22
Vicki Lee	12/23
Margie Terluin	12/24
Holly Pendergast	12/25
Emily Pluchos	12/25
Keek Hottendorf	12/27
Jack Wierzba	12/27
Lottie Ali	12/29
Deidre Tegarden	12/29
Jerry Embree	12/31



HAU'OLI LA HO'OMANA'O! (Happy Anniversary!)



Doug & Lisa Paulson	December 2, 1995
Jeff & Charlotte Wright	December 2, 1972
David & Kathy Krueger	December 18, 1971
Tony & Carol Wakefield	December 19, 1964
Todd & Molly Lawson	December, 21 1991
Duke & Sharon McElroy	December 23, 1963
Neil & Sheila Turnbull	December 25, 1985
Jerry & Berta Sieck	December 27, 1975
Bob & Jane Schumacher	December 29, 1991
David & Rhonda Stoltzfus	December 30, 1995

Worship Volunteers November 2019

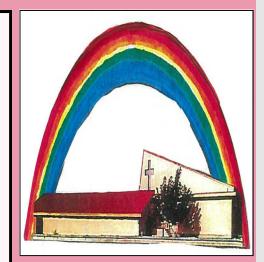
ASS	ASSISTING MINISTERS				
1	Zel Terluin				
8	Dori Thorngren				
15	Vicki Nelson				
22	Richard Gesch				
24	Zel Terluin				
29	Marilyn Hopkins				
	READERS				
1	Andrea Harris				
8	Nancy Jorden				
15	Barry Rosenfeld				
22	Nancy Meyer				
24					
29	George Kuzelka				
COI	MMUNION				
1_	4-Given				
8	Holly Pendergast, Marilyn Hopkins, Billie & Steve Moksnes				
15	Hula Ladies				
22	Hilary Glassel, Joy Nelson, Renee & Nels Romerdahl				
24	5:00 Hula Ladies 7:00 Zel Terluin, Phil Proctor, Don Lee & Keli Nelson				
29	Nancy Kentz, Betty Misner, Jerry & Berta Sieck				
GRI	REETERS				
1	Sue Moorcroft & Barbara Rudow				
8	Hilary Glassel & Joy Nelson				
15	Roberta & Jerry Sieck				
22	Ollie & Marcia Stafford				
24	5:00 Joy Nelson & Marcia Stafford 7:00 Ollie & Marcia Stafford				
29	Ollie & Marcia Stafford				

USI	JSHERS		
1	George Kuzelka & Duane Chaney		
8	George Kuzelka & Duane Chaney		
15	Duane Chaney		
22	Hottendorf		
24			
29	Duane Chaney		
ME	DIA		
1	Stephanie Mohr		
8	Nels Romerdahl		
15	Joel Rudow		
22	Stephanie Mohr		
24	5:00 Joel Rudow 7:00 Nels Romerdahl		
29			
FLC	OWERS		
1			
8			
15			
22			
24			
29			
REI	FRESHMENTS		
1	Hottendorfs		
8	Prayer Shawl		
15	Cheri Beyersdorf		
22	Jeane Raine		
29			

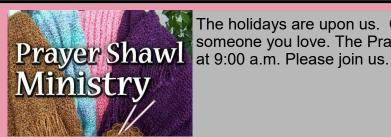


Important Statistics

October	2018	2019
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	116	112
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$33,733.88	\$22,047
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$276,254.75	\$279,717.25



KLC is a qualified section 501(c)(3) organization. All offerings or donations are tax deductible under section 170 (c)(2) of the IRS regulations. Making an offering/donation constitutes your agreement to relinquish control in accordance with those regulations and KLC policies.



The holidays are upon us. Consider giving a prayer shawl to someone you love. The Prayer Shawl Hui meets every Thursday

God bless,

The Prayer Shawl Hui



Women's Hui

There will be no meeting in December because of Christmas. Please join us at the end of January when we continue with our studies.



Next Meeting will be: December 17th, at 7:00 p.m.



Men's Hui

Next Meeting will be: We will be taking a break for the Holidays. We start back up in January.

All are Welcome

Administrative Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 AM—5:00 PM Friday: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

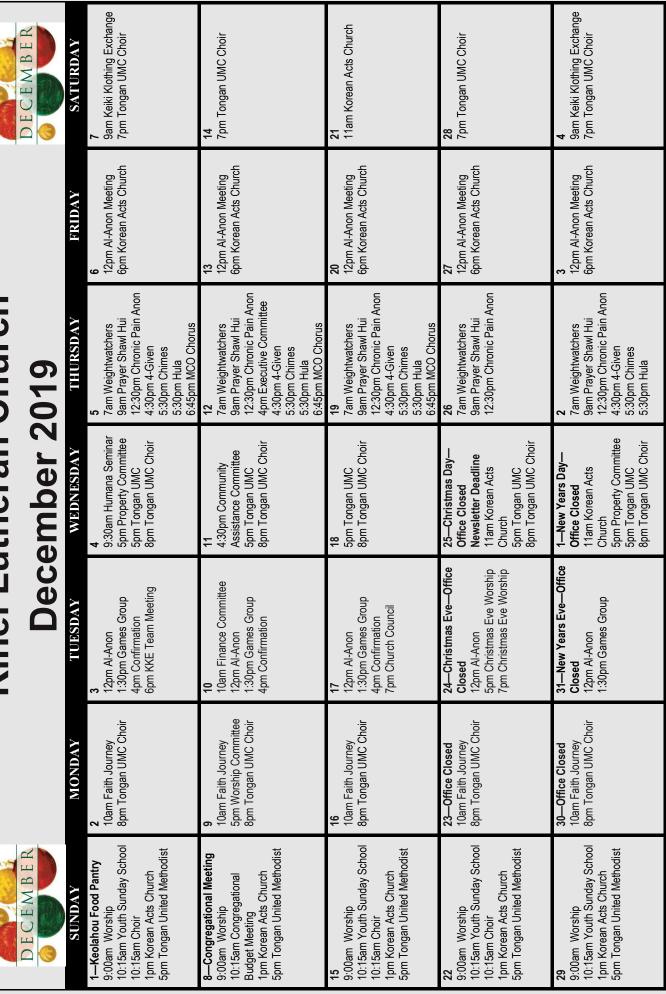
LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK

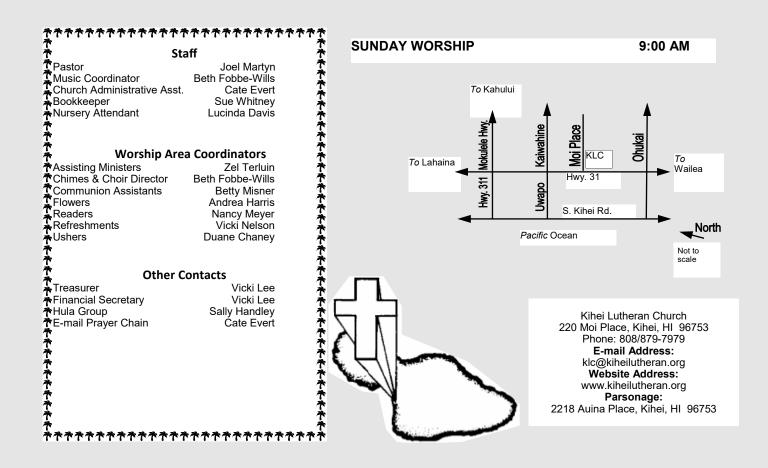
If you haven't already "liked" our page: www.facebook.com/KiheiLutheran go ahead and do so to be the most up-to-date on upcoming church events. A link is already on the church

website!



Kihei Lutheran Church





"Where all know they are beloved children of God"

Address Correction Requested

Non-Profit Org. U. S. Postage Paid Permit 47 Kihei, HI

Kihei Lutheran Church 220 Moi Place Kihei, Maui, Hawaii 96753 (808) 879-7979