

KEIKI CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to the Keiki Christmas project this year. We were pleased to be able to purchase gifts for all 134 children served at the Keolahou Food Pantry. The Outreach Committee was also able to provide a ten-dollar Safeway gift card in a beautiful handcrafted Christmas card for the 100 families and individuals served! Working together KLC shared the love of Christ with our community and made a brighter Christmas for many of our local families. Mahalo Nui Loa.



















ALOHA FROM PASTOR JOEL



Happy New Year my friends! What a crazy year 2020 turned out to be! I don't know about you but I am beyond happy to let 2020 be ushered into the past.

Did you know or realize that on January 1st at 12:00am, hindsight will truly be 2020?! I know, mind blowing right?! But seriously though, looking back at a year that has been jam packed with crisis after crisis, heartache after heartache, it truly is humbling and makes one realize the fragility of life and relationships.

I have seen too many people who's lives have been wrecked by COVID. Some did not get sick, some got sick and recovered and many got sick and died. Too many people died. Many of my personal friends have been lost to this horrible Disease. Too many people have lost their livelihoods because of shutdowns and lack of leadership. Too many people are suffering across the entire world.

Entering into a new year I finally see some hope. A new hope. Something to look forward to. I see families coming together in new ways. Friends supporting one another in their own social bubbles, communities banding together to help those who have been effected by the economic collapse, feeding the hungry and making sure to check in on the most vulnerable.

I see God working among us and I find myself being comforted, knowing that we have not been abandoned. God has not turned God's back on us but continues to comfort, support, love, provide for, nurture and grow us to greater depth of being.

I am grateful. I am grateful to be a part of such a loving community. A community who loves and cares for their neighbors and most vulnerable. A community who uplifts each other in prayer and edification. I am grateful to be here in this place with you. I am grateful to have the opportunity to walk through this season with you all. Seeing how KLC has adapted and grown over the last nine months has been heartwarming and inspiring.

Thank you, Kihei Lutheran Church, for continuing to do God's work in this community during a horribly difficult time. Thank you for supporting your pastor and staff, with grace and love. Thank you for looking out for one another. Thank you for being flexible and willing to try out new ways of worship, having meetings, and showing love to each other. We aren't out of the woods yet with this virus. I ask that you continue to take it seriously, continue to lift each other up, continue to support your church and most importantly, continue to love others as God in Christ loves you!

Many blessings and Happy New Year!

Pastor Joel Martyn

President's REPORT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

New Year's Greetings,

As we reflect on the past year, it is clear the world as we knew it was turned upside down. The worldwide pandemic has touched everyone and affected lives in a multitude of different ways. Our congregation has not gone unscathed as we struggled through changes in worship, social gatherings, and staying connected as an ohana. One of the first things I recognized when I began attending KLC was that the church was not a building, but rather the people. Coming from the mainland, I was accustomed to a large church with stained glass windows, candelabras, silver chalices, pipe organs, and fully robed ministers and choir members. Here on Maui, I found a place where we set up church each Sunday in a school cafeteria with the most basic materials, with birds often flying overhead, and where the love of Christ shone brightly. Now, as I look around our services, I still experience the warmth and love of an ohana. It is the people that are the church. It doesn't matter if we worship in person or virtually, we are still together. Being able to come together for live services and wave at our friends reminds us of that family. However, we miss being able to share the peace, give hugs, and spend time face to face with one another.

At Christmastime we are reminded that "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness a light will shine" (Isaiah 9:2) This passage has even more meaning this year, as we look towards the future and the light to come. It may not come as quickly as we would like, but the light will come, and joy will come with it as we eventually exit this pandemic.

In the meantime, let's do whatever we can to strengthen our ohana and share the love of Christ. Let's remember to pick up the phone and call members of our congregation, send a note or a card. We are reminded weekly not to stop and talk to one another in the parking lot, or at church, but to pick up the phone when we get home. But, do we really do that? I haven't received any calls, nor can I say I've reached for the phone to call others. I know that I can do better, as can most of us. Also, I encourage you to reach out and let us know what you may need, no matter how small. We love to support and help one another, but are often unaware of the needs.

As a newly-elected member of church council, I was surprised to be asked to be president at my first meeting in December. However, I welcome the opportunity to once again serve our congregation and look forward to helping lead us into the New Year. Please let me know how I can best serve our congregation by sharing your concerns, ideas, and thoughts. Together we will move forward and make 2021 a great year for our congregation!

In His Service.

Renee Romerdahl

ZOOM GET TOGETHERS

Because times are still so uncertain it is always a good idea to still stay connected to people any way we can. One way would be through zoom get togethers. Some groups have been Zooming for a couple months. To help gauge the interest in these types of get-togethers, please contact the office at klc@kiheilutheran.org with an idea or something you may want to discuss. An example could be a bible study, coffee and conversation, catch up on weekly event, etc. It is also



nice to see each other. It really lifts the spirits of those who have been gathering in this way. For example, the choir has been meeting every week for a Happy 40 minutes. This is not a commitment, it is just another way to connect. If anyone would like to be a part of the choir Happy 40 minutes (this doesn't

mean you have to be part of the choir now [©]), learn about using Zoom and how easy it is, please contact our Music Coordinator, Beth Fobbe-Wills at beth@willsmaui.com.

REPORT OF THE DECEMBER 15TH COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the KLC Council was held via Zoom on December 15.

Pastor Joel thanked Phil Proctor and Marilyn Hopkins for their service on Council and welcomed Renee Romerdahl and Holly Pendergast to Council. Pastor visited with 12 members during the past month.

Margie reported that the mailing sent to KLC friends in Hawaii and on the mainland has brought in \$19,935. It cost a little over \$3,000 to send the letters. Year-to-date income is \$314,475, with YTD expenses \$319,851. There is \$41,638 in the general fund which includes funds from the PPP loan.

The Stewardship Campaign brought in 36 pledges totaling \$173,427.

The playground project is completed. Thank you to Scout Wright, the Boy Scouts and KLC helpers.

The following Council officers were elected to serve through May 31, 2021:

Renee Romerdahl to serve as President.

Sue Moorcroft to serve as Vice President.

Margie Terluin to serve as Treasurer.

Holly Pendergast to serve as Secretary.

Joel Rudow was elected to serve as Financial Secretary.

Subject to bank approval, KLC will continue to make interest-only payments on the mortgage until the PPP loan is forgiven. KLC has everything completed for application for forgiveness. It will most likely be after the holidays before we receive the required information from the Bank of Hawaii to formally apply.

The next regular virtual meeting will be January 19, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Marilyn Hopkins

To see a copy of the approved November Council Minutes please click here.



The Stewardship Campaign has ended for this year with 36 pledge cards for a total of \$173,427. We will always accept pledge cards in the mail to add to the total. If you can't do it that way, please feel free to email the church office with your pledge. Mahalo to all of those who have helped out.

A mailing campaign requesting donations from approximately 5,000 'ohana and visitors to cover KLC costs has so far brought in \$19,945. We are ever so grateful to all of our visitors to our church. Mahalo to those who have given so far. We are receiving more donations daily. If you would still like to give, please see the article below for all the different ways you can give.

SERVICE LINKS FOR THE PAST MONTH

Sunday, November December 6th: Aloha my friends. Here is the link to the worship service. I hope and pray that you are all doing well and staying healthy.

Sunday, December 13: <u>Here is the link to today's service</u>. Thank you to Pastor Roxanne for filling in for me once again. I will be with you all once again next Sunday. I look forward to seeing you all. I do not enjoy being away due to illness at all!! I miss you all.



Sermon Reflection Questions For December 13th

- 1. My soul and actions magnify the lord by:
- 2. The great things the Lord has done in my life are:
- 3. God has looked with favor upon my life when:
- 4. Even in my humility God has lifted me up by:

Sunday, Sunday, December 20th: We had some technical issue this morning and the camera decided to shut itself off. So there was no service recorded. Mahlo for your understanding.

Christmas Eve, December 24th: Aloha friends and Merry Christmas! <u>Here is the video of our Christmas eve service.</u> Sorry it took so long to get out to you. We had some technical problems. So if you would like to see it, here it is. Mahalo's. --Pastor Joel

Sunday, December 27th: Aloha my friends. Here is the link to the worship service for Dec 27th. The Bishop of our Synod and his staff have created a worship service and bulletin for all of the churches in the Synod to use for the 27th as a thank you for the hard work that we have all done over the course of this utterly strange 2020.



WAYS TO GIVE

This has been an unusual year in many ways. Although we are worshiping inside and outside the church building, we are still unable to spend time with all of you. Through it all, our work as a church continues. Our staff still works, in fact even more hours, to record worship services and handle daily needs. We "visit" our ohana through phone calls and in other creative ways, help with

needs, collect and deliver food, and all the other things it takes to support the congregation and the community.

Without our regular visitors, with some members choosing to move closer to mainland family, and with job loss on the island as across the country, we are now at a point where the gifts coming to KLC are smaller than the expenses we still have to pay. We have gone through the budget to lower or eliminate as many expenses as possible, many resulting from KLC and other groups not being fully open at this time. We received a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan from the federal government to cover payroll for a while, but those funds have been used. We now must rely on contributions, which have begun to lag behind expenses.

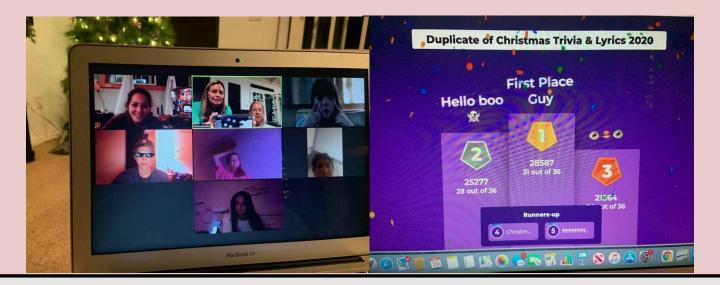
We are asking for your help if you are able to do so. Please consider making a donation to the continuing life of KLC. Any amount will help. Small contributions blend together to become large blessings. You can give through the church website, www.kiheilutheran.org by clicking on the "Give" button at the top right of the home page. Or you can download the "Givelify" app to your iphone or Android, then search for Kihei Lutheran Church. Both are completely safe and easy to use. Of course, checks in the mail work too.

We look forward to the time when we can all be together again sharing worship and friendship. Until then, our prayers are with all of you. Take care, stay well, and know that you are loved.

J-Walkers (Walking with Jesus)- middle/high school youth group

The J-Walkers prepared for Christmas with Zoom Advent devotions. It was great to be together, even though it was online, and it helped prepare our hearts for Jesus' birth. We also had great fun challenging each other with Christmas trivia on Kahoot.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the J-Walkers!



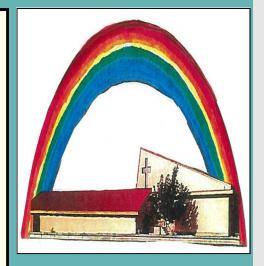
COLLEGE GROUP

We never want to forget our 'ohana who are off at college Thanks to Joleen Pilotin who always keeps those people in mind. This time around they were sent a copy of Our Daily Bread, Starbucks gift cards, and as always some fun and stress relief with bubble wrap. I think we could all use some bubble wrap at times. It was great to see some of you over this Christmas break. We hope this year is not too stressful for you.



Important Statistics

Nov.	2019	2020	
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	123	61	
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$27,522.68	\$28,910	
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$307,239.93	\$281,494.75	



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 Prayer Shawl Hui is meeting at KLC on Thursdays from Prayer Shawl to change that. Please join us to make shawls, pick out a 9:00—11:00. But be aware that there may be times we need shawl to give away (or keep for yourself) or just sit and talk. We would love to see you.

God bless,

The Prayer Shawl Hui



Next Meeting will be: January 19th at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom



Men's Hui

Next Meeting: When Scheduled

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

Our Church Directory is Online! View our church directory online or via the FREE mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to **members.InstantChurchDirectory.com** and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "Instant Church Directory" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app. Please make sure the church has your current email or you won't be able to access the directory. Just email Cate with your name, email, phone number, address, and any other information and she can get you into the directory.

If you would like to update your information, please email Cate with your changes. If you would like a printed version, please let the office know.

Please note that the directory is still a work in progress and is being updated regularly.

Need help or have questions?

Please contact: Cate at klc@kiheilutheran.org



Our Church Directory is powered by *Instant Church Directory*.





HAU'OLI LA HANAU! (Happy Birthday!)

Jack Bendon	1/1	Kathy Krueger	1/14
Loretta Dahlin	1/6	Sue Olson	1/15
Doak Schoennemann	1/6	Jerry Kistler	1/17
Valaida D'Alessio	1/7	Oliver Stafford	1/17
Carol Swanson	1/9	Steve Moksnes	1/29
Mark Beyersdorf	1/10	Elaine Ziegler	1/29
Taylor Steed (Rudow)	1/10	Dave Ballaine	1/30
Karen Carlson	1/13		

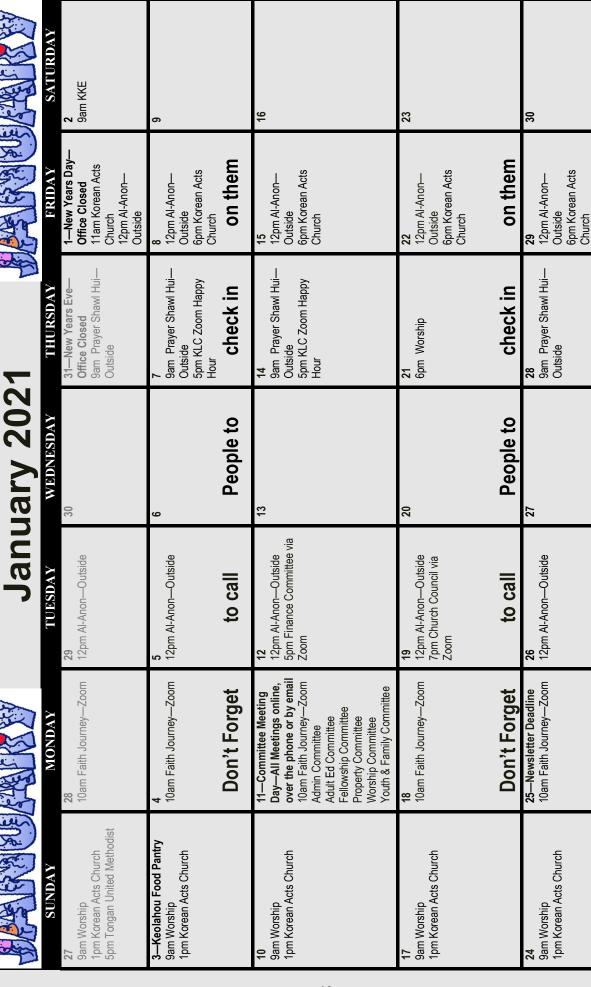


HAU'OLI LA HO'OMANA'O! (Happy Anniversary!)



Anthony & Malysa Scibelli January 5, 2010 Eric & Elisabet Jorgenson January 23 Jerry & Susan Embree January 25, 1963

Kihei Lutheran Church



6 9am KKE

12pm Al-Anon—

Outside

9am Prayer Shawl Hui— Outside

12pm Al-Anon—Outside

10am Faith Journey—Zoom

31 9am Worship 1pm Korean Acts Church on them

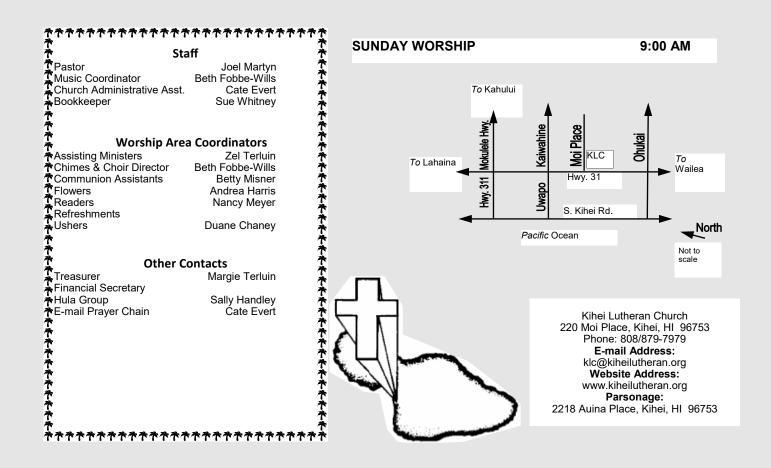
check in

People to

to call

Don't Forget

6pm Korean Acts Church



"Where all know they are beloved children of God"

Address Correction Requested

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