

**NOVEMBER 2021** 

#### KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joel Martyn

#### **DONNA SMITH**

On behalf of the Community Outreach and Assistance Team, we would like to pay a humble tribute to our team leader Donna Smith.

She initiated a high school food program with Chrissy, a teacher at Baldwin High School. This provided a meal to those who fell between the cracks, with no food for breakfast and lunch and sometimes none on the weekends. With Backpack Buddies (she was a board member for the Maui Food Bank), she worked closely with Kihei Elementary to get backpacks filled weekly for keiki who didn't have enough to eat. She also worked closely with Margie Terluin on our longest ongoing

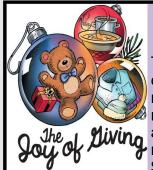
ministry for the Keolahou Food Pantry monthly food collection. This included our holiday ministry of Thanksgiving meals and Christmas hygiene bags. She coordinated the God's Work, Our Hands slipper distribution for the past few years which provides slippers to the keiki on Maui.

Without your assistance, and the ongoing determination of Donna, most likely some of these valuable community projects would not have even started. So please, along with our team, remember her fondly and be thankful and grateful to her for her selfless contributions to the many lives she touched and made a difference to because she cared so deeply for those less fortunate.

A Hui Hou, until we meet her again. Ke Akua me Ke Aloha,

The Community Outreach Team

Renee Romerdahl, Hillary Glassel, Jerry Kistler, Jerry Siek, Margie Terluin, Zel Terluin (monthly volunteer), Sue Moorcroft (monthly volunteer), and Tori Gonzales (volunteer).



# **KEIKI CHRISTMAS**

This year we will continue our tradition of purchasing gifts for the children served at Keolahou Food Pantry. These gifts will go to more than 100 children from local families in our community that a monetary donation towards the purchase of gifts for the keiki rather than purchasing gifts yourself. need our assistance. Due to COVID we are asking that you make rather than purchasing gifts yourself. The suggested donation is \$15 per child, but donations of any amount are greatly

appreciated. Donations can be sent to the church office or left in the offering plate. Please be sure to clearly label your donation Keiki Christmas either at the bottom of your check, or on an envelope containing your donation. We are also accepting donations of wrapping paper. Both new rolls and partial rolls are gratefully appreciated. They can be left at the church office or brought to church on Sunday mornings. For questions or further information please contact Nels or Renee Romerdahl, 874-5695.

# Graced by the Past - Called for the Future



"I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, to give you a future with hope."

(Jeremiah 29:11)

The Stewardship Campaign is coming to an end. By now we hope you have taken some time to pray and think about Kihei Lutheran Church and what it means to you. You may have given some thought to

our programs that benefit the community

Pastor Joel, our great staff and all the people who volunteer

Our youth programs and keeping in contact with the young adults who have moved on to college or lives of their own

Our music and musicians

the worship services

Whatever it is about KLC that you love, I hope it has gone through your mind and your heart in the past few weeks.

We also hope the articles and speakers have prompted you to realize more about your own relationship with God. That's what giving is all about. You know God and all that he has been in your life. Because of that relationship, you want to share the love with others. We all know God has a purpose for each one of us and, collectively, He has a purpose for Kihei Lutheran.

Now is the time to trust God to help us fulfill that purpose. As you trust in Him to help you through your daily life and provide for you, you know you can share a portion of what you have to help the church you love share with others.

Let's work together to fulfill our purpose:

"To share the love and word of God through worship and service to others."

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#### It's About Blind Trust

"Jesus is not a fund-raiser. He talked about money a lot, but not because he wanted people to give to any particular cause. He talked about money because he cared about us and because he knew that what we do with our money affects who we are spiritually." (Giving to God, Mark Allan Powell, 2006, page 54)

If you have a super memory, you might recognize this from a newsletter article about three months ago about Trust. In that article, you were reminded of hard times you may have faced and how difficult it is to trust in the hard times. But Trust you Must.

We on the Stewardship Committee are asking you to trust again this year. Give to God first. BUT we are going to trust right along with you. We will do a blind pledge this year. You will get a pledge card and lots of information of KLC as always, and we want you to prayerfully fill out that pledge card.

#### Then put it in the envelope provided and bring or send back to KLC.

We will not open them because your pledge is not about meeting our budget for the coming year. Around July we will send those pledges back to you, still unopened. Your pledge is between you and God and about your relationship with Him.

- If you believe that all belongs to God and you are just using it, you will want to share what you have.
- If you want to continue the work of KLC in the community, you will want to share what you have.
- If you believe we can be a beacon of light for others, you will want to share what you have.
- If you believe in the mission of KLC, "To share the love and word of God through worship and service to others," you will want to share what you have.

Trust with us.

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"I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, to give you a future with hope."

(Jeremiah 29:11)

As we look toward a new year and a new commitment to Kihei Lutheran Church, we might be tempted to wonder how we can meet our needs when we can't even consistently worship together. And when we are together, there are fewer of us. Let us all put aside those concerns and look at both at our past and our future.

This is not the first time KLC has faced a challenge. Those who have been here for many years will remember the struggles and uncertainty of being a new church worshiping in a school. Then there was the anxiety of deciding to go into debt for a building, and later to expand that building. Economically, there were hard times faced by the entire nation that affected those in our church. But you/we always persevered.

KLC has been very visibly on the corner of Pi'ilani and Moi for decades. People recognize it and know what church you mean when you mention the cut-out cross. We have been a light in the community and will continue to be. Let us continue with our programs to help the people of Maui. Let us continue to inspire through our love for all.

We ask you - do you love your church?

Do you believe our programs help those around us?

Do you love coming to this building to worship?

Do you enjoy our worship services?

Do you love listening to our music, our choir, our hand chimes?

Do you enjoy seeing youth being active in the church and the community?

Do you love our staff, Pastor Joel, Cate, Beth and Sue?

Then please help us support all of this. You can make a difference far beyond yourself by believing in the mission and the purpose of Kihei Lutheran Church.

### ALOHA FROM PASTOR JOEL





Martvn

Aloha KLC ohana,

Tis the season!! My friends the holidays are upon us. November marks the beginning of FROM THE the holiday season starting with my birthday on November 4th. Just kidding. But really though, November is a month to truly take into consideration all of the things that we should be grateful and thankful for. Whether good or bad, all of our experiences and decisions bring us growth and change in one way or another. And after the last almost two

years now which we have navigated through, we are all changed individuals and a changed church.

Change is inevitable and it is one of those experiences that we don't always enjoy. Change can be uncomfortable, it's difficult to navigate and it is often out of our control. But, Jesus is all about change. His was a message of change, taking people out of their set ideologies and showing them a different, bigger perspective that ultimately went contrary to everything they knew or understood about God. Jesus helped change the lives of all that he came across. Healing, loving, calming storms, walking on water, bringing back to life those who had died, and those who lost their way, ridding people of demons and, ultimately death and resurrection.

You see, Jesus is in the business (not really business but mission) of redemption and resurrection. Bringing us back to life time and time again, and changing our hearts while resurrecting them. Constantly making all things new.

Jesus is doing something new. And KLC is a part of that newness. We have all been changed after the traumatic experience of the pandemic. And since Jesus shows us a different and new perspective, we should be looking, not at numbers of people who go to church, but for what it is that Jesus is doing. Ask yourself this question 'What is this new thing that Jesus is doing?' and see with a new perspective.

The Christian church across the world is going through transitional birthing pangs because of the radical, super fast changes that we have gone through in such a short amount of time. Add to that change the many harmful, abusive and traumatic ideologies held by some of these church bodies and you have a recipe for a grand exodus of individuals from those churches across the world as they begin to see with new eyes. And this isn't just limited to those aforementioned church bodies. The ELCA is also experiencing change on a grand scale as churches move from the comfortable 'but we've always done it this way.' to a hybrid model of church where church is not only in person but also on the web! Huge change for Lutherans.

Many people are hurting and confused because of harmful ideologies and it's because of those experiences that people are seeking something new. A safe place where they feel loved, a place where they don't feel judged or held to ideals and expectations that are out of reach and unrealistic. A place where they are able to ask questions of faith and not be chastised and accused of doubting. A place where they can heal the spiritual and emotional wounds that have been bestowed upon them. Maybe we can be that place. Maybe we can offer the love and support that people need to heal.

Now is the time where loving our neighbor is super important. If individuals seek out KLC for healing, love and safety, we need to be ready to welcome them with the loving and open arms of Jesus. We ought to be aware and awake as Jesus bids us, and anticipate this new thing that Jesus is doing.

You are an amazing group of disciples KLC. Keep up the good work that you do in loving others and always be mindful of why we are here as a church community; "To spread the love and word of God through worship and service to others."

Blessings, Pastor Joel Martyn

# President's REPORT

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24 Verse 1

November always brings to me fall memories of autumn leaves, crisp cool air, apple cider, pumpkins, and Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving being the highlight of the month as we celebrate our blessings with family and friends. A time when everyone seems to take a moment to think about all that they are grateful for in their lives. At the First Thanksgiving the Pilgrims were simply thankful to still be alive, that they had shelter and food needed to survive. We have so much more to be grateful for in our lives.

No doubt the pandemic has taken a toll on everyone's lives, and we have all been touched by the effects of it. Our church is only one example; membership has declined, attendance is down, visitors are non-existent, and expenses have exceeded our income. However, we still have so much to be grateful for at Kihei Lutheran Church! We have a church building and parsonage, we have a church family that we love, a great staff, and outreach programs which we are proud to sponsor. We are continuously grateful for God's blessings and all that HE shares with us.

What better month to also have Pledge Sunday where we offer our tithe for the next year? It seems only fitting that since this is the time of year when we reflect on our blessings and all that we are grateful for in our lives. We realize that all we have comes from God and belongs to God; everything we have really belongs to God. When you make your pledge this year, it will be a pledge between you and God. If you believe that all belongs to God and that you are just using it, you will want to share what you have. If you want to continue the work of KLC in the community, you will want to share what you have. If you believe in the mission of KLC, "To share the love and word of God through worship and service others," you will want to share what you have.

You should have received your pledge card and information in the mail. If you need a pledge card, please contact the church office. Pledges will be given during worship service on Sunday, November 7. I ask to you to please pray and think about all you have that belongs to God, and how you can share it with our congregation. Remember that your pledge is between you and God, a pledge is a statement of your planned giving. Your tithing and generosity is greatly appreciated, and I thank you for your commitment and love for Kihei Lutheran Church.

The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. — Corinthians 9:6-7

Blessings,

Renee Romerdahl

# ATTENTION KLC MEMBERS! DECEMBER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.

The congregational meeting for the Budget has been set for December 12th right after service. A copy of the budget will go out digitally as well as in paper form no later than November 28th. Please plan on attending as we need a quorum to conduct official church business.





# Council Secretary's Report from the October 2021Council Meeting

A regular meeting of the KLC Council was held virtually via Zoom with a quorum present. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by Keli Nelson.

Pastor Joel reported that he is continuing his 'Midweek Moment' video devotion series that focuses on self -care. He prays daily for KLC. Pastor is maintaining the parsonage's landscaping, sprinkler system, and PV system. Cate and Pastor are learning how to use the online streaming hardware, which will be used to stream worship services to Facebook. Pastor presided at a graveside service and is preparing for a memorial service this month. Pastor attended the Bishop's Gathering via Zoom. Pastor has been in conversation with a few families what are interested in coming to KLC. Additionally, Pastor made phone calls to 25 members, 9 non-members, and officiated at one memorial in the last month.

Margie Terluin presented the Treasurer's report. The general account balance is \$11,208. Funds will be transferred from the Benson memorial fund to meet general fund expenses starting next week.

Renee's report included her reflection on God's gifts to us.

The KLC 2022 Budget will be submitted to the congregation at its Annual Meeting on December 12, 2021.

The next regular virtual meeting will be November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Holly Pendergast

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

# Greetings and God's Peace to all of you!

In order to save on postage, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Contribution Statements have been sent via email. If you did not receive yours, or if there are any discrepancies with your records, please contact me at Financesec@kiheilutheran.org, or 808-446-6919.

PLEASE READ: IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Many of you have noticed that, due to the pandemic, KLC has been operating at a deficit for nearly two years. Our expenses for 2021 have exceeded our income by more than \$30,000.00. Income is made up of both contributions and proceeds from the rental of the church property. Although we began the year with a relatively healthy General Fund bank balance, we have now essentially depleted that balance. The Finance Team and Church Council have reduced the budget to the "bare essentials", but we still need to pay the bills. In August, at the recommendation of the Finance Team, the Church Council authorized the Treasurer to transfer funds from the Ray Benson Fund to the General Fund, if it became necessary to pay our monthly bills. The first transfer of funds, in the amount of \$10,000.00, became necessary on 10/26/2021.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Ray Benson Fund, it was established by KLC member Ray Benson (now deceased), approximately 8 years ago. It was originally donated to KLC in the form of a \$100,000.00 Certificate of Deposit (CD). Mr. Benson specified that the interest generated during the term of the CD was to be donated to the KLC Youth Program. However, Mr. Benson also specified that at the conclusion of the deposit period, the principal amount could be utilized by KLC in whatever manner was deemed appropriate by the Church Council.

We are extremely fortunate to have the Ray Benson Fund to fall back on, although I'm sure that most of us would like to see it used for a purpose that is more directly beneficial to the community. Since it is once again Stewardship Season, I ask that you please prayerfully consider increasing your contributions to KLC.

In His service,

Joel Rudow Financial Secretary

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH HYGIENE BAGS**



Once again this year our Holiday Outreach for Keolahou Food Pantry will be providing pre-packaged meal boxes (containing 15 food items including a small canned ham), delivered by Maui Food Bank, as well as the hygiene bags put together by the Outreach Team. Like last year we are blessed by the generosity of the Maui Food Bank as they will provide 150 meal boxes at no cost to the church.

We are in need of donations of money or products for the hygiene bags.

The specific items needed are: VO5 shampoo, Soft Soap, individually wrapped bath soap, large tooth paste, 2 tooth brushes per bag (we need 250 toothbrushes) dental floss, small hand sanitizer, and small Kleenex packages. We also provide wash cloths, but they will be purchased in bulk from Amazon. We also like to share a religious Christmas message and a small goodie in each bag.

With that said, anything the congregation can provide will be greatly appreciated. We will purchase the items needed with any donated funds. We are looking at making 125 bags to be delivered before Christmas.

Please contact Margie Terluin if you have any questions on how you can help make this important ministry come to fruition.

Mahalo from the Community Outreach and Assistance Team



## **Chimes**

As we move forward in our worship services, it would be nice to be able to bring back one of our musical groups. Chimes playing has been a part of our KLC music ministries for many years. We have a cabinet full of music, however, we need enough hands to play. It is helpful if you have had experience playing an instrument in the past. This will take you back to those fun days of being in band. However, if you have no previous experience, we will help you. So, if you are ready to begin building back our KLC Chimes, please send me an email at: beth@willsmaui.com. We will need a minimum of 10 people in order to begin form

beth@willsmaui.com. We will need a minimum of 10 people in order to begin forming our group. I look forward to hearing from you. All ages are welcome.

#### SERVICE LINKS FOR THE PAST MONTH

**Sunday, October 3rd:** Aloha Friends. Once again we had technical difficulties in recording the service. We will soon have a new system in place so we shouldn't have this issue anymore.



**Sunday, October 10th:** There is no Video for the service. We had a corrupt file when trying to upload the service.

Sunday, October 17th: Aloha friends and KLC 'ohana. Here is the link to today's worship service.

Sunday, October 24th: Aloha friends. Here is the link to today's worship service.

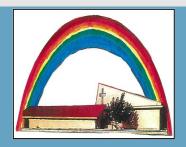
Sunday, October 31st: Aloha friends. Here is the link to today's worship service. Happy Reformation

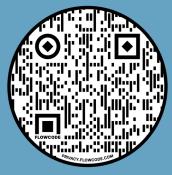
Sunday.

# **Important Statistics**

| September   | 2020                      | 2021                      |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Average Sunday<br>Worship<br>Attendance             | 50—Including online views | 44—Including online views |
| Offerings For The<br>Month<br>(members & visitors)  | \$20,177                  | \$18,229.54               |
| Offerings – Year<br>to Date<br>(members & visitors) | \$228,266.75              | \$197.776.53              |

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.





Scan this QR Code to get to our Givelify page.



#### **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, <a href="www.kiheilutheran.org">www.kiheilutheran.org</a> 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.



Next Meeting will be: Nov 16th 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 website!





# HAU'OLI LA HANAU! (Happy Birthday!)

| Tony Wakefield         | 11/1  |
|------------------------|-------|
| Natalie Proctor        | 11/2  |
| Joy Steben             | 11/3  |
| Shawna Handley-Stiller | 11/7  |
| Darrell Pierson        | 11/7  |
| Elvin Kamoku           | 11/8  |
| Joel Rudow             | 11/9  |
| Kamaehu Spencer        | 11/9  |
| Tom Rekow              | 11/9  |
| Michelle Beyersdorf    | 11/10 |
| Peggy Crossen          | 11/10 |
| Raymond Steben         | 11/11 |
|                        |       |

| Evelyn Kaya        | 11/13 |
|--------------------|-------|
| Patricia Duckworth | 11/14 |
| Quinn Hottendorf   | 11/17 |
| Andrew Lawson      | 11/17 |
| Gail Holt          | 11/19 |
| Ed Shafer          | 11/19 |
| Peggy Alexander    | 11/20 |
| Linda Hangartner   | 11/21 |
| Johnny Romerdahl   | 11/22 |
| Margaret Luteijn   | 11/24 |
| Ulla Rothschild    | 11/27 |
| Morgan Stoltzfus   | 11/28 |
|                    |       |



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

John & Dori Thorngren November 2, 1991 Shane & Deidre Tegarden November 9, 2002 Dave & Heather Ballaine November 26, 1993





# Kihei Lutheran Church November 2021



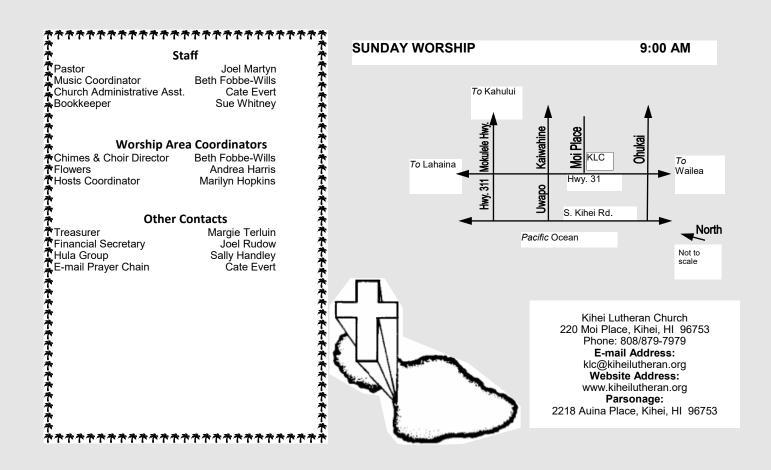
| STANDAY  | WONDAY  | THESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                                   | THIRSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATIRDAY                                   |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |   |  |   |   |  |  |
| 31<br>9am Worship<br>1pm Korean Acts Church<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 1<br>10am Faith Journey—Zoom  | <b>2</b><br>12pm Al-Anon                                     | 3<br>5pm Tongan Church                      | <b>4</b><br>9am Prayer Shawl Hui<br>530pm KLC Zoom Happy 40<br>Min  | <b>5</b><br>12pm Al-Anon<br>6pm Korean Acts Church           | <b>6</b><br>9am Keiki Klothing<br>Exchange |
| 7—Keolahou Food Pantry<br>9am Worship<br>1pm Korean Acts Church<br>5pm Tongan Church | 8—Committee Meeting Day—All Meetings online, over the phone or by email 10am Faith Journey—Zoom | 9<br>12pm Al-Anon<br>5pm Finance Committee Via<br>Zoom       | 10<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 11<br>9am Prayer Shawl Hui<br>2pm Pest Control— Parsonage<br>3pm Pest Control—Church<br>530pm KLC Zoom Happy 40 | <b>12</b><br>12pm Al-Anon<br>6pm Korean Acts Church          | 13   |
|  | Don't Forget  | to call  | People to                                   | check in  | on them  |  |
| 14<br>9am Worship<br>1pm Korean Acts Church<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 15<br>10am Faith Journey—Zoom   | 16<br>12pm Al-Anon—Outside<br>7pm Church Council via<br>Zoom | 17<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 18<br>9am Prayer Shawl Hui—<br>Outside<br>530pm KLC Zoom Happy 40<br>Min  | 19<br>12pm Al-Anon<br>6pm Korean Acts Church                 | <b>20</b><br>10am Event                    |
| 21<br>9am Worship<br>1pm Korean Acts Church<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 10am Faith Journey—Zoom  Don't Forget   | 23<br>12pm Al-Anon—Outside<br><b>to call</b>                 | 24<br>5pm Tongan Church<br><b>People to</b> | 25—Thanksgiving— Office Closed— Newsletter Deadline <b>check in</b>   | 26—Office Closed 12pm Al-Anon 6pm Korean Acts Church On them | 27   |
| 28<br>9am Worship<br>1pm Korean Acts Church<br>5pm Tongan Church                     | 29<br>10am Faith Journey—Zoom   | <b>30</b><br>12pm Al-Anon—Outside                            | 1<br>5pm Tongan Church                      | 2<br>9am Prayer Shawl Hui<br>530pm KLC Zoom Happy 40<br>Min   | 3<br>12pm Al-Anon<br>6pm Korean Acts Church                  | 4<br>9am Keiki Klothing<br>Exchange        |

Prayer Shawl yourself) or just

The Prayer Shawl Hui is meeting at KLC on Thursdays from 9:00—11:00. Please join us to make shawls, pick out a 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



"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