



KLC 'Ohana News

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



SEPTEMBER 2023

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Pastor Ron Rucker

Update about KLC's Efforts to Help Wildfire Victims

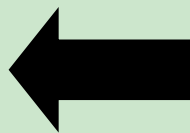
Aloha to our Faithful Congregation and many Wonderful Friends of KLC. It is difficult to put into words what has transpired since the fires of August 8th. As co-chair of the COAT team, I will tell you our immediate action, current action, and future actions as decided by our team.

Since we had been collecting hygiene items for our Christmas Outreach, it was decided that all those items (690 hygiene, 82 pairs of slippers for GWOH, and 32 Prayer Shawls) would be delivered immediately to the displaced fire victims at War Memorial stadium. We took those on Thursday, August 10th. It was a necessary and very humbling experience. Since then, we have received numerous donations via USPS and Amazon. These items are being sorted and will be distributed as soon as possible where needed.

During the delivery of our food collection to Keolahou we were told that due to the sparse selection at the Maui Food Bank the Food Pantry is in need of food. Team members will be using funds received to purchase food for the Keolahou FP to continue to serve South Maui and now to the displaced because of the fire.

We have been very blessed by so many. Our longer-range projects will include working directly with the Red Cross and South Maui Disaster Relief, as well as donating more at Thanksgiving and Christmas (gift cards for food or restaurants) along with our scheduled Thanksgiving boxes and hygiene bags. We have discussed the possibility of an Adopt A Family program of those displaced by the fire.

The team would like to expand Thanksgiving to a community church service and luau for those in need of fellowship and healing. These things and more are in the works. We are in this together, with the ELCA disaster assistance, and our Community Partners.



School Supplies ready and counted to make backpacks and give to those who need it over the next couple of months or even years.



Hygiene Products getting counted and ready to pack away for those who need them.

Note From the Office

These past few weeks have been difficult, but also the most rewarding I have had in my life. We are all hurting from the wildfire in Lahaina and we here at KLC have largely gone unscathed. We did have a few people affected and we are helping them as much as we can. What has been rewarding is the amount of people wanting to help in any way that they can. I didn't start hearing anything until a couple of days after the fire. At that point, I was answering about 15 phone calls a day as well as multiple emails a day. This lasted for almost two weeks but has died down a little since then.

About a week after the fire, we started to receive amazon packages. I didn't ask for items, people would just send items after speaking to me about what we are doing. We were inundated with school supplies and hygiene items. Packages are still coming in. I have had to let people know that monetary donations would be best at this time since we no longer have room for things. We also want to wait to see what the needs will be in the coming months. We know that the help we have right now isn't going to last through the entire recovery and we want to be ready to help where we are needed.

The most special thing for me is that we have been receiving prayer quilts and shawls from other churches. People don't understand how these little items can mean everything to someone when they are going through losing everything. Just to know that someone cares is sometimes a huge boost.

I have also learned that this can be taxing on oneself. I had to ask for a few days off just because I was getting mentally and emotionally spent. To know that you all have my back through this is truly comforting. Mahalo to everyone who sent items and funds so that we can bring even just a little comfort to people. We will be trying to get thank you cards or messages to you who sent items, but I know that in some instances we don't know who sent things. To those people, know that we are grateful for your support during this time.

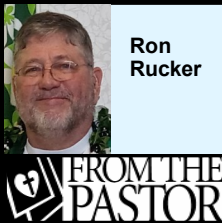
Cate Evert—Administrative Assistant



These are boxes from just one delivery. We had about 6 deliveries this size.



These are all slippah's ranging from child sizes to adults.



Ron Rucker

ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Aloha from Pastor Ron,

As I write this Nanette and I are preparing for a four day retreat with other pastors and Bishop Dave. The retreat is occurring on Kauai. This will be Nanette's and my first visit to Kauai and make our island visits now total four different Hawaii islands.

The month of August has had two significant events that have had both great direct and indirect impact on members of our congregation. First, your former pastor, Pastor Joel Martyn, went home to his savior's loving arms as a result of an aggressive cancer. We should continue to remember Mandy, Ezra, Rowan, and family and friends in our prayers.

Second, Maui had multiple devastating fires, especially in Lahaina. The damage to property and history and the loss of life is overwhelming. Yet, God is with us. Great tribulation gives us and God a chance for greatness. Our "God's work, our hands" project helped us be ready with items needed to meet existing needs. Congregations and individuals from around the United States and Canada have reached out to us, literally in droves. Donations of funds, gift cards, and boxes and boxes of hygiene products, school supplies, and slippers are also being received daily. Be thankful for those making the donations and remember in prayer our USPS, UPS, and FedEx drivers who are delivering all this to us, as well as to others. I am also thankful for the hardworking group of individuals who receive, unpack, and count all these items and prepare them for delivery to those who are interfacing with the ones providing direct contact and intervention. We, like Lutheran Disaster Response, are looking at the long game here. Relief and services are going to be required for a long time.

We have no members that I know of that lost family members or property. We have two members that I know of that have lost their employment. I also know that many of us are experiencing trauma and stress like never before, especially teachers. God is telling us to look at what is beside and behind us but then to look ahead to the future, focusing on God's promises to us, and God's mission for us.

Have faith, let go and let God. God is at work in us and through us.

If you need my assistance or just want to chat, feel free to call Cate in the church office or to call or text my cell phone, 907-841-6992.

STEWARDSHIP TASK FORCE

It's not too late to join. The Stewardship Task Force will have its first meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, September 6, beginning at 4:00 p.m. This will be a brainstorming meeting to exchange ideas for the 2024 stewardship campaign. Contact the office or Marilyn Hopkins if you would like to receive the Zoom link to offer your thoughts.



Presidents Message

This month the transition team presented some short surveys to the congregation to help them learn your thoughts, feelings and experiences at Kihei Lutheran Church.

While the responses vary, the most favorite thing about KLC appears to be the love shown by our ohana and how we care for each other and others. One comment was that "People live full of the Holy Spirit and show it". Another said it was how we share the love of Christ.

Our congregation is filled with aloha and love. It is one of the identifying features that makes our congregation unique and special. This love has been especially shown this month with the outreach to our local communities as a response to the wildfires. Your donations of time, hygiene items, food, school supplies, slippers, and more have all been so gratefully received by our community. Prayer shawls that have been lovingly created have also gone out to fire victims. Our Community Outreach team will continue to minister to those who have been affected by the fires. As we all know, it is a marathon, needs will continuously arise and change with time. This fall and the holiday season will be especially hard for families who have lost so much. We have established a dedicated Maui Fires fund for the monetary donations that have been received. The Church Council will be working together with the Community Outreach Team to oversee the distribution of these funds.

The survey also asked about how you were feeling about KLC at the present time. Many responded "hopeful", "excited", and "headed in the right direction". As our community moves forward post Covid and rebuilds after the fires, we will begin revitalizing our congregation. We look forward to the future and to learn what God has planned for us. It is an exciting time as we begin a self study to determine who we are, define our ministry, and discover what God is calling us to do.

Thank you for being a part of our ohana and making our congregation such a special place!

Blessings,

Renee Romerdahl



Property News

The Property Team will be changing things. Instead of doing a big clean up of the property, we're going to do small projects each month. We will have our first clean up on September 16th to work on the bushes by the street. Stay tuned to the eblast for we schedule the time.

How Can I Help?

Here are a few suggestions of things you can do during September. We're sure you can think of other ways to be involved.

- Be part of the Stewardship Task Force to offer ideas for the 2024 campaign. Contact Marilyn or the office to be included in the Zoom meeting on September 6 at 4:00.
- Consider being part of a Council team.
- Give to Be the Change. The money given in September will be used for church landscaping.
- Talk to visitors or someone you don't know well after worship.
- Help with the property project this month.
- Bring a snack for hospitality time.





Council Secretary's Report from the August 2023 Council Meeting

A regular meeting of the KLC church council was held virtually via Zoom with a quorum present. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by Renee Romerdahl.

Pastor Ron Rucker reported that the church has been receiving monetary donations earmarked for fire relief. A special fund has been set up and currently has a balance of \$3,410.00. Pastor Ron has also suggested that people order items to donate from Amazon to avoid depleting the supplies on island and additionally consider donating to Lutheran Disaster Relief as they provide long term assistance after other groups have left. He reported that all the hygiene products and slippers already collected were taken to the fire relief donation center by members of the community outreach committee. Pastor Ron has worked at calling and checking on members.

President Zel Terluin encourages all to have hope and to pray in these difficult times.

Treasurer Margie Terluin reported that the giving for the week of August 8 to 15 was \$3,531.00. Year-to-date income is \$177,650.37 and year-to-date expenses are \$167,867.66.

Property committee chair, Sue Moorcroft, reported that there is a leak in the irrigation system by the areca palms. Zel Terluin is going to look for the leak. Meanwhile the water will be turned off.

The audit team members are finishing their reports and will submit them to the council at the September meeting.

The transition team has met twice and developed survey questions to ascertain what about KLC is important to the membership. The first set of questions was sent out in an e-blast and was available at Sunday's service. The team encourages everyone to thoughtfully respond to the questions and let their voice be heard.

The council members reviewed their new assignments to act as liaisons between the various committees and the church council.

President Zel Terluin tendered his resignation as council president. The council accepted it. Vice President Renee Romerdahl will step up as president. The council elected Mark Haley as vice president.

The next regular virtual meeting will be September 19, 2023, at 7:00 pm.

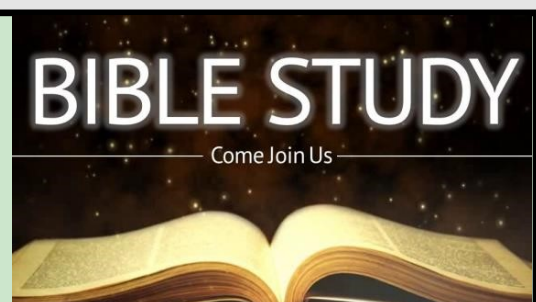
Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Dickmeyer

To see a copy of the approved July Minutes [Click Here.](#)

COMING SOON: EXCITING NEW BIBLE STUDY

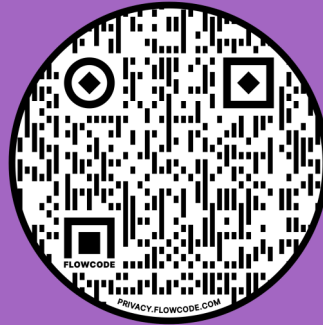
The adult education committee invites you to join us after service and fellowship starting September 17th in a new study titled READING BIBLICAL LITERATURE: GENESIS TO REVELATION. This exciting study will include half hour video lectures by professor Craig Koester of Lutheran Seminary followed by lively discussion. The course is designed to engage us in a new way with the epic narrative, inspiring characters and timeless themes of the Bible.



Important Statistics

July	2022	2023
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	32—In Person 227—Streaming Views	47—In Person 430—Streaming Views
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Views	161—In Person 1,134—Streaming	236—In Person 2,146—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$18,225.00	\$18,569.00
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$143,611.62	\$136,294.37

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.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl

The Prayer Shawl Hui will be back to their monthly Thursday morning gathering at 9am sometime in September. Please see the eblast for an update once the office is notified. If you need a prayer shawl or have any questions please contact the office and Cate will be able to assist you.

The Prayer Shawl Ladies



Church Council

Next Meeting will be:
Aug, 15 at 7:00 PM Via
Zoom



Men's Hui

Next Meeting:
September 26th at 5:00
p.m.AAAA

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/KiheilLutheran
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!)

Nancy Jorden 9/2
 Tiffany Winn 9/2
 Phillip Proctor 9/6
 Sharyl Boren 9/7
 Joel Smith 9/7
 Joleen Pilotin 9/11
 Syd Dahlin 9/14

Rhonda Stoltzfus 9/14
 Nancy Kentz 9/20
 Angelina Campos 9/21
 Alexandra Kennedy 9/21
 Carolyn Rixey-Wagner 9/26
 David Stoltzfus 9/26



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

Miguel & Lisa Gonzalez September 2, 2001
 Syd & Loretta Dahlin September 17, 1955
 Zel & Margie Terluin September 21, 1980
 Curt & Gail Holt September 22, 1973



Kihei Lutheran Church

September 2023



SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY																						
27 9am Worship 5pm Tongan Church	28 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	29—Newsletter Deadline 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Men's Hui	30	31 5pm KLC Arts Potluck	1 12pm Al-Anon 2pm Pest Control Parsonage 3pm Pest Control Church	2 9am Ohana & Keiki Exchange	3—Keolahou Food Pantry 9am Worship 5pm Tongan Church	4—Labor Day—Office Closed 10am Faith Journey— Zoom Don't Forget	5 12pm Al-Anon	6 11:30am Rotary People to	7 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes check in	8 12pm Al-Anon on them	9	10 9am Worship 5pm Tongan Church	11 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	12 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Finance Committee 6:30pm Worship Committee	13 11:30am Rotary	14 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	15 12pm Al-Anon	16	17 9am Worship 5pm Tongan Church	18 10am Faith Journey— Zoom Don't Forget	19 12pm Al-Anon 7pm Church Council Via Zoom	20 to call	21 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes check in	22 12pm Al-Anon on them	23	24 9am Worship 5pm Tongan Church	25—Newsletter Deadline 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	26 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Men's Hui	27	28 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	29 12pm Al-Anon	30

Staff

Pastor Interim Pastor Ron Rucker
 Music Coordinator Beth Fobbe-Wills
 Church Administrative Asst. Cate Evert
 Bookkeeper Sue Whitney

Worship Area Coordinators

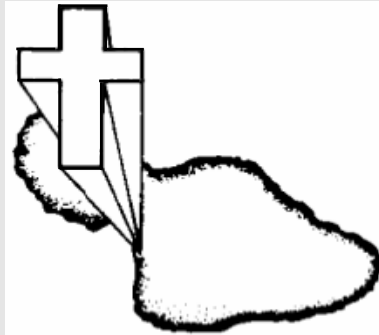
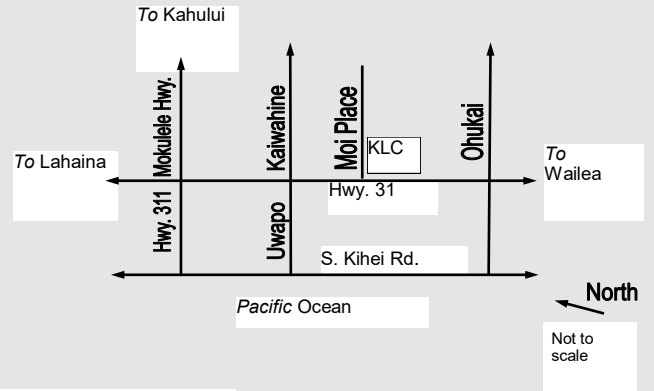
Chimes & Choir Director Beth Fobbe-Wills
 Flowers Andrea Harris
 Hosts Coordinator Marilyn Hopkins

Other Contacts

Treasurer Margie Terluin
 Financial Secretary Marilyn Hopkins
 Hula Group Sally Handley
 E-mail Prayer Chain Cate Evert

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 AM



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“Where all know they are beloved children of God”

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