



# KLC 'Ohana News

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



MARCH 2024

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Pastor Ron Rucker

## HOLY WEEK



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE** Holy week is the last week of March and concludes on Easter Sunday. Everyone is welcome to join us during the week. We look forward to seeing you.

- Sunday March 24—Palm Sunday—Kihei Lutheran Church—9:00 a.m.
- Thursday March 28—Maundy Thursday—Kihei Lutheran Church—7:00 p.m. Time Subject to Change.
- Friday March 29—Good Friday—Kihei Lutheran Church—7:00 p.m. Time Subject to Change.
- Sunday March 31—Easter—Kihei Lutheran Church—8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

## Holy Week—What to Expect



### **Palm Sunday**

Today's liturgy begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly the tone of the service changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Matthew's account of the passion today and John's version on Good Friday. Though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This holy week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

### **Maundy Thursday**

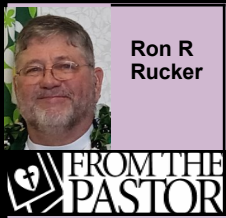
With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

### **Good Friday**

The service is based on the Stations of The Cross—a devotion that was developed in the Middle Ages by the Franciscans as a way of allowing people who could not travel to the Holy Land to walk where Christ walked on the day of his passion. By the end of the 17th century many churches had stations, or stops, arranged at intervals along their walls, each with a cross and beneath that cross a representation of an event in the passion narrative. Nine of the fourteen stations are taken directly from scripture; the other five come out of the earliest traditions of the church. Each station has a devotion wherein a narrator will speak, followed by a meditation or thought. Following the meditation there will be a prayer, after which a candle will be extinguished, signifying the ebb of Christ's life.

### **Easter Sunday**

On this day the Lord has acted! On the first day of the week God began creation, transforming darkness into light. On this, the "eighth day" of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. We celebrate this new creation in the waters of baptism and in the feast of victory. With great joy we celebrate this day of days, even as we begin the great fifty days of Easter. Filled with hope, we go forth to share the news that Christ is risen!



Ron R  
Rucker

## ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Aloha from Pastor Ron,

My story. Approximately 56 years ago, I promised God that I would be God's servant as an ordained minister. Along the way, however, life kept getting in the way. Maybe I was being like Jonah. Or maybe God had a different plan in mind. I can't imagine what my life would be like on the original route. I'm pretty sure that I would not have met Nanette, the love of my life; nor have the wonderful young adults and grandkids we have; and I probably wouldn't be here in Kihei with you wonderful, exciting, and challenging people. On the other hand, all of this might have been God's plan all along and maybe we would still be here – just by a different life and route. After all, God always has a plan and just like our GPS systems, God is always able to recalculate or reroute us as necessary.

What I do know is that this life of mine has been great for almost 74 years. Have there been brighter spots along the way – sure. Have there been darker spots along the way – absolutely. Have I kept the faith – most of the time. I also know that God has used Nanette and me (we are a team) all these years to care for and minister to, and serve a variety of people in an overwhelming variety of ways. Some I was aware of at the time of God using me/us. Others I didn't know until later what God was doing. And I am sure there are many, many others I **still** don't know about. Our job is to plant seeds, to share the message of God's kingdom through our love and word. Everything after that is up to God.

I have been thinking recently about how powerful and wonderful this past year here in Kihei and being in journey with you all has been. And I have been reflecting on the meaning of the last 2 months. Yes, I know a lot of "boomer" type pastors, after all, I am one. In fact, a few years ago in Alaska, I was once dubbed the token boomer by a group of pastor colleagues who were, I don't know, Gen Z or millennials – suffice it to say as young or younger than my own children. These past 2 months we have had a chance for some of these younger pastors as well as other pastor friends to visit us here on the island. What a gift they have been.

Chad Bird shared the following thoughts this week which cover, I think, what I have been feeling: "Jesus is the forgiver of our past. He not only erases our long list of sins, but writes in their place his lifetime of good deeds. His love transfigures our past by making our past his own. He is the companion of our present. He wakes us up every morning with the words, "I am with you. You are baptized. Nothing that happens to you today will alter my devotion to you." He is the hope of our tomorrow. The thundering storm on the horizon he will quiet with his grace. Whatever will happen cannot change what has happened: in the fires of his love he has welded you to his own flesh. He and you are inseparable. Before you take another step, live another day, Christ has already lived it. His resurrection molds our future. In his empty tomb is fullness of hope for our future yet un-lived. No matter our past failures, our present struggles, or our future sorrows, Christ will always hold us fast."

A friend I served in the military with over 30-years ago, also became a pastor later in life. She recently shared the following words about the law and love from the International Childrens Bible according to Paul in Romans 13:9-10: **"The law says, 'You must not be guilty of adultery. You must not murder anyone. You must not steal. You must not want to take your neighbor's things.' All these commands and all others are really only one rule: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' Love never hurts a neighbor. So loving is obeying all the law."** Powerful thoughts and words being in relationship.

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.

## Presidents Message

This past month the KLC Annual Report was published and then reviewed during the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 18. The past year, 2023, was an amazing year of healing and growth for our congregation. I am extremely grateful to God for sending us Pastor Ron and Nanette as we have been blessed by their presence in our lives. Together we have turned the corner. Our attendance has increased, our members have been actively serving God, and we are opening our minds and hearts to hear what God has planned for our future. I hope that you all took the opportunity to read the annual report, as that is what tells the story of the past year at KLC. It provides a complete and transparent view of what has happened during the past year.

Two congregational members were elected to serve on Nominating Team for Church Council during the Congregation Meeting this past month. Marilyn Hopkins and Stacy Proctor will be joining council members, Sue Moorcroft and Vicki Nelson as this year's Nominating Team. There are five openings for Church Council members for which they will be seeking individuals to nominate for election in April.

You also had an opportunity this month to participate in a series of conversations led by the Transition Team about the future vision and ministry at KLC. If you were unable to participate in any of these conversations, then a Google survey is available for you to share your thoughts and opinions. The Transition Team encourages everyone to share their voice. We want to hear from as many as possible as the results will be used to help formulate the MSP (Ministry Site Profile) which advertises who we are and what we are looking for in a pastor for KLC.

We have heard our members describe our church as welcoming, inclusive, friendly, liturgical, and as an older congregation with the majority being over age fifty. Responses to the question "What is God Calling Us to Do?" We have heard; *"Love one another, Serve others, Be open minded on how we proceed, Provide a place for visitors, Be open and welcoming to those here for a short time. Study the Bible and hear God's word, Grow the church, Be Open to change and accept the new, Live our faith, Have events to bring local in to learn our faith-all ages, Read out to the wider community, Challenge us to do something we've never done before"*.

After the results of the Google Survey are collected they will be added to the comments from all the conversation groups. They will then be published and made available to the congregation.

I close this message to you with a psalm for our Lenton journey and the future: *"Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you" (Psalm 33:20-22).*

Serving God With You,

Renee Romerdahl

## TRANSITION TEAM DISCUSSIONS



This past month the Transition Team has held a series of conversations about the future vision and ministry at KLC. If you were unable to participate in any of these conversations, then a Google survey is available for you to share your thoughts and opinions. The Transition Team encourages everyone to share their voice; we want to hear from as many as possible. The results will be used to help formulate the MSP (Ministry Site Profile) for KLC. To access this survey [click here](#) or scan the QR code.





## Council Secretary's Report from the February 2024 Council Meeting

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

Pastor Ron Rucker reported that Cheri Beyersdorf's service is this Saturday. We are working on getting a van for Kelaweia Mauka Hub to use. Attendance has been good the last couple of Sundays. A new regular visitor, Vincent, is open to helping with VBS and youth programs. A discussion on a bonus for our cleaner was tabled for now. She has been doing more tasks that is beyond her pay.

Renee Romerdahl reported that the preschool contract for 2024-2025 has been signed. Dave Ballaine has resigned from council. Mahalo for your service Dave.

Treasurer Margie Terluin reported that giving for the week of February 18 was \$2,694.00. Year-to-date income is \$44,407.09 and year-to-date expenses are \$36,052.00. General Fund balance is \$71,496.43. Balance of the Fire Relief Fund is \$63,280.19 and the Kelaweia grant is \$12,290.87. Pay down the mortgage is currently at \$44,032.00.

Sue Moorcroft suggested we change our monthly lawn maintenance to mow the entire lawn twice a month and the front yard every week.

4 members were reinstated to full membership. There will be a special Bake Sale and Bakeoff fund raiser in October for Community Outreach.

There was discussion regarding a request from OKE to place a 40-foot storage container on the property. It was decided that OKE will need to check county laws to see if it is even possible. The council also is requesting that the preschool move their fence again for church services on Sunday.

Pastor Ron will be on vacation April 19-29.

The nominating committee for council will be Vicki Nelson, Sue Moorcroft, Stacie Proctor & Marilyn Hopkins.

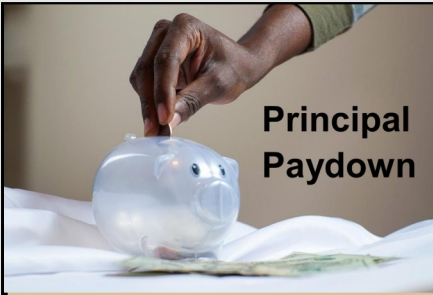
Next regular meeting will be March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 om to be held virtually.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Sauer

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





## Principal Paydown

## PAY DOWN THE MORTGAGE

You did an amazing job. In one month, KLC members and friends gave \$27,702.67, more than meeting the \$20,000 matching funds. In fact, the match was met and passed in a mere two weeks. When you add in the matching funds, \$47,762.67 will go toward the mortgage principal. Thanks to the generosity of every one of you, our mortgage will now be below \$300,000. Besides generous giving to the Be-the-Change Box, the two fish bowls, Sunday offerings and mail, there was more than \$1,600 given to the bake sale and \$3,672.67 given the day of ice cream sundaes.

This is a very nice dent in our mortgage. Please feel free to give to the mortgage principal any time throughout the year. As soon as the mortgage is paid off, we will be able to put more of our donations to serving others.

Thank you all for being so generous.

## Mid-Week Advent Holden Evening Prayer

Please continue to join us every Wednesday during Lent, March 6th, 13th, & 20th, as we will be hosting Holden Evening Prayer starting at 5:30 pm. It is a service with prayers and singing throughout. Everyone is welcome to join. A potluck soup/salad/bread/dessert dinner will be held after. Please feel free to bring your favorites with you to share. We look forward to seeing all of you.

Holden  
Evening  
Prayer



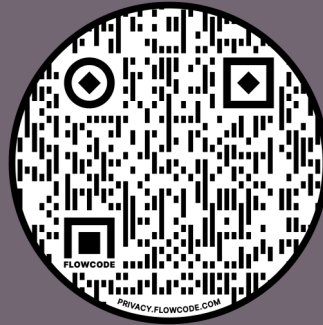
## GAME NIGHT/POTLUCK

We are planning a game night and potluck for March 15th starting at 6:00 pm. If you would like to bring your favorite game we will see what everyone is in the mood for or even have more than one game going at a time. Please bring a dish to share and a beverage of your choice. If you have any questions, please contact the office via phone or email. Mahalo.

## Important Statistics

January	2023	2024
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	61—In Person 188—Streaming Reach	74—In Person 354—Reach
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach	307—In Person 942—Streaming	297—In Person 1415—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$17,324.50	\$19,922.09
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$17,324.50	\$19,922.09

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 meets on Thursday mornings at 9 am. 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**



**Next Meeting will be:**  
**March 19th, at 7:00 PM**  
**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](http://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!)**



Larry Nelson	3/2
Dave Spencer	3/2
JoAnn Patterson	3/3
Charlotte Wright	3/8
Nels Romerdahl	3/20
Doug Paulson	3/21
Mo Hottendorf	3/21

Nathaniel Bell	3/26
Owen Pendergast	3/26
Peter Vorhes	3/26
Zel Terluin	3/28
Micheala Scibeli	3/28
Teri Ocean	3/31

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



Peter & Jeanne Vorhes	3/1/1991
Larry & Donna Nelson	3/3/1962
Jake & Linda Hangartner	3/4/2006
Romy & Debbie Galindo	3/9/1996
Tom & Cheryl Rietz	3/15/1985
Mike & Gina Johnson	3/24/1990
Joe & Nancy Kentz	3/27/1993

# Kihei Lutheran Church

## March 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	26 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	27 12pm Al-Anon	28 5pm Holden Evening Prayer/Meal	29 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes 6:30pm Maui Improv	1 12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE	2 9am Ohana & Keiki Exchange
3—Kealahou Food Pantry 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	4 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	5 12pm Al-Anon	6 11:30am Rotary 5pm Holden Evening Prayer/Meal	7 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes 6:30pm Maui Improv	8 12pm Al-Anon 3:30pm Piilani Villages <b>on them</b>	9
10 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	11 10am Faith Journey— Zoom 7pm Worship Committee	12 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Finance Committee	13 11:30am Rotary 5pm Holden Evening Prayer/Meal	14 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes 6:30pm Maui Improv	15 12pm Al-Anon 6pm Game Night & Potluck	16
17 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	18 10am Faith Journey	19 12pm Al-Anon 7pm Church Council via Zoom	20 11:30am Rotary 5pm Holden Evening Prayer/Meal	21 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes 6:30pm Maui Improv	22 12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE <b>on them</b>	23 7am Ohana & Keiki Exchange Easter Event
24—Palm Sunday 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	25—Newsletter Deadline 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	26 12pm Al-Anon	27	28—Maundy Thursday 9am Prayer Shawl 6:30pm Maui Improv 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship	29—Good Friday 12pm Al-Anon 7:00pm Good Friday Worship	30
31—Easter Sunday 8:30am Easter Worship 10:30am Easter Worship 3pm Tongan Church	1—Office Closed 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	2 12pm Al-Anon	3 11:30am Rotary	4 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes 6:30pm Maui Improv	5 12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE	6 9am Ohana & Keiki Exchange



**Staff**

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

**Worship Area Coordinators**

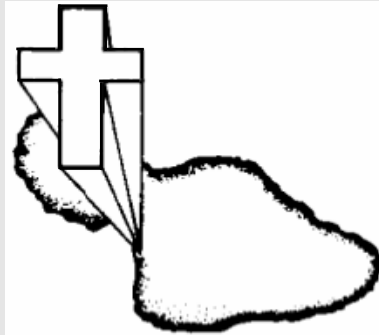
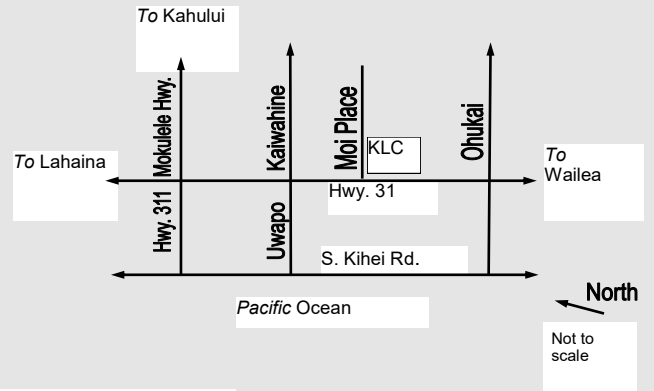
Chimes & Choir Director	Beth Fobbe-Wills
Flowers	Andrea Harris
Hosts Coordinator	Marilyn Hopkins

**Other Contacts**

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

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**9:00 AM**



Kihei Lutheran Church  
 220 Moi Place, Kihei, HI 96753  
 Phone: 808/879-7979  
**E-mail Address:**  
[klc@kiheilutheran.org](mailto:klc@kiheilutheran.org)  
**Website Address:**  
[www.kiheilutheran.org](http://www.kiheilutheran.org)  
**Parsonage:**  
 2218 Auina Place, Kihei, HI 96753

*“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