

MAY 2024

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Pastor Ron Rucker



COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

On the last Sunday in April, we presented the Director of Maui Rescue Mission a check for \$1,257.59 from the Easter morning noisy offerings along with 4 containers of laundry pods for the washing facility. This is a new ministry for KLC, and we look forward to building a strong partnership through 2024 and beyond.

On April 18th, Jerry Sieck along with Zel and Margie Terluin delivered 1,040 items covering t three tables to the Keolahou Food Pantry. This is our

largest food delivery ever given. We are grateful to all of you for your continuing support of Keolahou. A shout out to our church cleaner, Cindy, for bringing huge boxes of food from the closing of the Safeway Kahului Fire Hub. Once again, the volunteers from the food pantry (Glenna and Aloha) were deeply moved by the amount and good choices we provided. They reported that at their last distribution they signed up six large, displaced families with many keiki. Our donation was a blessing for them and allows them to feed many.

On Friday, the 26th, members of the team made hygiene bags for Feed My Sheep. Because of generosity in past months, we already had many of the items in the community outreach room. Hilary and Margie shopped at Walmart on Monday to get wash cloths, hand towels, deodorant, and toothpaste. After the bags are completed, Marilyn Hopkins took them to Feed My Sheep where she volunteers. She also took

100 pounds of dog food to be put into gallon plastic bags for the people coming to Feed My Sheep with pets.

Needless to say, we are keeping busy trying to reach out to those in need. Mahalo plenty to everyone involved.







ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Ron R Rucker

Jesus is risen. Alleluia, Jesus is risen indeed.

There are lots of conversations swirling around KLC just like any church. The two I hear the most are about the lack of communication and the lack of leadership. For the record, do I think any of these two or any other issues are truly problematic? No. That being said, is there room for improvement? Absolutely.

In the midst of these grumblings, I came across this article by Chad Bird and thought I would share it with you. "When there are problems, scandals, and false teachings in congregations today, the reactions vary. Some say they avoid churches for these very reasons. Others remain active in the church but wish they could find a congregation not beleaguered by these struggles. Occasionally, some will form a group and break away from such troubled congregations to form their own congregation. Here is something to chew on: from the very beginning of the Christian church, individual congregations have had issues, some major and some minor, because (1) all congregations are composed of sinners, (2) are pastored by sinners, and (3) are under constant attack by evil forces that seek to draw congregations away from truth, love, and unity in the Spirit. Case in point: the seven churches to whom letters are sent in Revelation 2-3. Ephesus abandoned the love they had at first (2:4). In the church in Pergamum, some held to false teachings (2:14). Thyatira tolerated a self-proclaimed prophetess who led some into sexual immorality (2:20). On it goes.

The congregations in Smyrna and Philadelphia, even though Jesus does not criticize them for false deeds, false teachings, or lukewarmness, nevertheless had their challenges from external pressures, such as upcoming persecution in the form of imprisonment (2:10). Churches, ancient and modern, live on enemy territory. Of course the church is a challenging place. Rather than avoiding the community of believers, however, we take our place as fellow disciples in the corps of believers who pray, worship, and struggle together. ... we strive for unity. Is this easy? No, of course not. But it is the biblical way. The good and right way. May the Lord of the church give us the grace, wisdom, and perseverance to fight the good fight of faith alongside our fellow believers in the body of Christ."

In the movie "Field of Dreams", there is a scene where Kevin Costner's character is ranting and raving about all the things he has done without ever asking what was in it for him. Ray Liotta's character responds by asking, "what are you asking?" The response is - "well, what's in it for me?"

Martin Luther said, "It is not your merit, but his love." Jesus said on the cross, "It is finished", knowing full well that the battle against evil for all of creation was indeed over, won. Jesus also knew that by coming out of the tomb, Jesus would demonstrate that life and love were stronger than even death itself. Out task is not easy nor is it simple because it requires us to set aside our own egos and become lovers and servers of each other and all the world. Doing things we know or think we know need to be done simply because they need to be done, not because we expect some type of return on our investment. That is certainly not the way of Jesus and it is not supposed to be our way either. Yet, we err and forgiveness reigns supreme.

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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Presidents Message

This month will start off with a Sunday brunch on May 5 during which time the Transition Team will lead us on an exploration of what KLC's goals should be for the next five years. During the past few months they have led you in discussions and published surveys to learn your perceptions and views regarding the ministry at KLC. During brunch, the Transition Team will review the results and what they have learned from you about what our ministry should look like and what you feel God is calling us to do. We will then discuss what we hope for KLC to accomplish in the next five years. Then you will help to determine the three top primary goals that hold the most promise for continued development of the ministry at Kihei Lutheran Church.

This is important work as it needs to be included in the Ministry Site Profile document that will be used to call a new pastor for our church. As we write this document, we want to be extremely thorough and explicit in describing KLC, our goals, needs, and wants so that a good match for us can be found. Therefore, it is critical that everyone have the opportunity to share their thoughts and opinions. In our promises, we promise to make decisions that are in the best interest of the congregation, not what might be best for us or for some small group in the church.

Please continue to pray for our church and its leadership. Listen for what God is calling us to do, and come help us plan for the future on May 5.

Grace and Peace,

Renee Romerdahl

My sheep hear My voice. I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27)



Council Secretary's Report from the April 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 Joshua Gonzalez.

Marily Hopkins was voted in to finish Dave Ballain's term.

Pastor Ron Rucker reported that his vacation was starting soon. There was some discussion on Lutheran Disaster Response. There was a long discussion on the purchasing of a bus for OKE. More discussion will happen in the next couple of months.

Treasurer Margie Terluin reported that giving for the week of March 10 was \$5,985. Year-to-date income is \$96,081.09 and year-to-date expenses are \$87,244.50. Balance of the Fire Relief Fund is \$43,779.45. The Endowment Fund has increased to \$71,879.60.

It was decided that OKE and KLC will be trading storage containers. KLC will repair parts of the shipping container and OKE will take that over. KLC will be taking over the current OKE container.

Next regular meeting will be May 21st, 2024, at 7:00 pm to be held virtually.

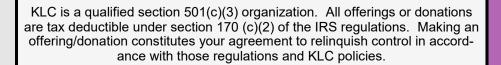
Respectfully submitted,

Donald Sauer

To see a copy of the approved March Council Minutes please Click Here.

Important Statistics

March	2023	2024
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	100—In Person 259—Streaming Views	150—In Person 238—Reach
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach	398—In Person 1035—Streaming	749—In Person 1191—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$18,383	\$25,627
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$54,914.50	\$66,649.09







Scan this QR Code to get to our Givelify page.



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: May 21st, 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

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!)



Carol Gesch	5/1
Nancy Dennison	5/3
Curt Holt	5/3
Bailey Pendergast	5/5
Eryn Pendergast	5/5
Renee Romerdahl	5/7
Lloyd Amundson	5/9
Malysa Scibelli	5/11
Mark Haley	5/11
Deja Campos	5/14

Jerry Sieck	5/14
Lisa Gonzalez	5/15
Jack Jorden	5/18
Neil Turnbull	5/18
Duane Chaney	5/24
Don Lee	5/24
Dori Thorngren	5/24
Saylor Pearl	5/26
Danny Boren	5/27

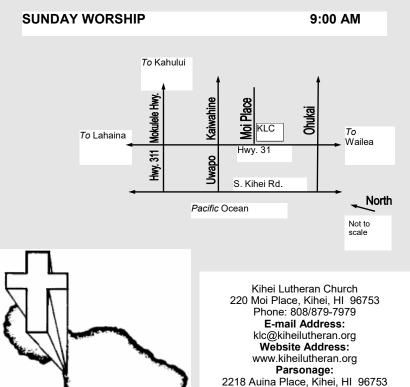
HAU'OLI LA HO'OMANA'O! (Happy Anniversary!)



Steve and Heather Ceccanti 5/5/2001
Tony and Karen Gucci 5/19/1989







"Where all know they are beloved children of God"

Address Correction Requested

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

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