



# KLC 'Ohana News

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



OCTOBER 2024

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Pastor Ron Rucker

## GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.



On Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 38 pairs of hands gathered together at Kihei Lutheran Church for a first ever Congregational God's Work Our Hands Workday. Since the onset of the Maui wildfires of August 8, 2023, KLC has had a God-given opportunity to really expand our Community Outreach. We are now partnering with Feed My Sheep (FMS), a "Cup of Cold Water" (ACCW), Maui Rescue Mission (MRM) and a newly-formed disaster center (hub) named Kelaweia Mauka (established in Lahaina). We also continue to serve the Keolahou Food Pantry (25 years) and the Kihei Youth Center (20 Years). The workday started with a simple sandwich lunch to give the congregation a time to have fellowship by sharing a meal and some awesome desserts. Nine stations had been set up in advance to give each pair of hands an opportunity to help assemble the items to be distributed.



Continued on the Next Page



Due to generosity of Lutheran Disaster Response, Kihei Lutheran has been able to bless these hard-working community partners with financial support and also providing monthly or quarterly much needed items, hygiene bags, snack bags, PB&J sandwiches and much more. We have been told that the numbers served at each of these community partners has doubled since this onset of the wildfires. It was a no brainer that we at Kihei Lutheran would step up the production of the needed items by asking the entire congregation to take part. Since these nonprofits are instrumental in assisting the needy, the unhoused and the under fed, we all helped by making 200 snack bags, filled with a variety of snack items, juice, fruit cups and protein items. To this day many of the displaced fire victims remain unhoused, some by choice but many not.

We assembled 180 hygiene bags desperately needed with toiletries, first aid kits, toothbrushes and toothpaste, wash cloths, hand towels and soap. ACCW, also distributes bottled water (which we helped purchase), the snack bags and hygiene bags weekly along with the 120 sandwiches we made for them at our workday. Everyone's hands were busy putting together hygiene bags, working on the sandwich bags we decorate by adding up lifting bible verses and messages of hope for the PB&J sandwiches. Music played, some sang and some even danced while some just concentrated on spreading that PB&J just right. It was a multi-generational event from ages 10 to 80+. Here on Maui, 'ohana (meaning family), is a very strong part of everyone's life. People from all walks of life, different backgrounds, and circumstances gather to do God's work. Our 'ohana at KLC all had a wonderful opportunity to use their hands to help provide a better tomorrow for hundreds of residents on Maui.

Our ministry partners often express their gratitude that we at Kihei Lutheran are working hand in hand with them to make a difference. All the work done on the 7<sup>th</sup> was dedicated and prayed for on September 8<sup>th</sup> God's Work Our Hands Sunday by our interim Pastor Ron Rucker. Through his leadership, caring and generous heart, he submitted grant proposals that have given Kihei Lutheran Church the amazing opportunity to put the teachings of Jesus into action. We will be forever grateful to him for all he has done for our Island 'ohana. Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) for the opportunity we have been given to share "The Aloha of Akua" (love of God) with those in need.

Margie Terluin  
Co-Chair Kihei Lutheran Church Community Outreach





Ron R  
Rucker

## ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Aloha from Pastor Ron,



The church council meeting scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup> was rescheduled to August 24<sup>th</sup> because I was off island with my relatives. For more than two hours we started with early routine council business like devotions and minutes approval, and then we primarily focused on the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) with some introductory comments and discussion with Pastor JP Sabbithi, Hawaii Assistant to Bishop Dave Nagler. In order to finish the MSP, appoint the Call Committee, and do some other council business, we scheduled an additional special council meeting for October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Just this past Sunday, we heard a pastor from the mainland talk about their church going through the throes of closing their doors and shuttering their windows. This is not a comfortable or easy process. So, what is the future of KLC? That is part of what the church council is wrestling with right now. We are solvent. I and Nanette are a cheap date, so the past year we have more than met our expense needs, although not by much. This is a vast improvement over the years previous to my arrival when reserve funds were being spent. How much can KLC afford to pay for a new pastor? Major problem and discussion item for the council. Remember the old adage: “you get what you pay for.” Well, this is mostly true but not always. Of course, this is the point where believing and trusting God is most important. Identifying our mission and corresponding ministries is of utmost importance. New members are vital, but understand that is possible but certainly not the national norm. Also, the typical members with more disposable resources are aging out of our 'ohana by death or relocation. The question that is difficult for us to ask but of vital importance to KLC is whether these members continue to contribute to KLC at all, or a reduced amount, or even some type of legacy contribution. This is not, however, a question that needs consideration by only our aging members. This is important planning for **every one** of our members regardless of age and status.

Father Richard Rohr says: “Change is not what we expect from religious people. They tend to love the past more than the present or the future.” But change, my friends, is inevitable. We can either prepare for change and roll with it and thrive, or we can be inundated by it and drown. It is precisely for this reason and these times that God says, “do not be afraid, I am with you.” Do we believe God? Do we trust God?

Martin Luther said: “A Christian is never in a state of completion but always in a process of becoming.” The same is true of the church, of KLC. Is KLC prepared and ready to change? Is KLC willing to follow where God is leading? God is the conductor of this train, Are we on board?

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

The 2024-25 Stewardship Campaign will begin October 27<sup>th</sup> and continue for three weeks to November 10<sup>th</sup>. We will focus on the scripture from Jeremiah 29:11, “Trust God! I know the plans I have for you...They are plans for good and not for disaster to give you a future and a hope.” Since it was such a huge hit last year, we will again end with ice cream sundaes on the lanai after worship. Watch the eblasts for more information and insights from our members and friends.





## Presidents Message

PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT

First of all, I must thank you for all your helping hands on Saturday, September 7, for the God's Work Our Hands event. The turnout was amazing! A special mahalo to the Outreach Team, and especially Margie Terluin for organizing and leading this event, as well as to Hilary Glassel for all her assistance. It was amazing to see 37 volunteers and 74 helping hands, of all ages and generations working together to provide outreach to our community. This was especially amazing given that the recent average attendance on Sunday has been around 50. This event provided an opportunity for our congregation to help with our outreach programs and to learn more about them.

Those helping hands could be used in other areas of the church as well. We welcome you to join one of the committees/teams here at Kihei Lutheran Church. Some current areas of need are the Stewardship Committee, the Property Committee, and the Choir. We really need your help!! One person on a committee is not enough. A committee is formed by several individuals! Remember that many hands make light work; the perfect example is all that was accomplished on September 7 by our congregation. It isn't fair that one person has to do it all. For more information on how you can help, please talk to me or any council member.

Last night at our council meeting we worked on the finalization of the Ministry Site Profile. Pastor JP, the Bishop's Assistant, joined us as we reviewed the MSP. It was a long meeting, and while we hoped to have everything finalized, there were still some details that needed to be addressed before we could pass it on to the Pacifica Synod. Therefore, we are meeting again next Tuesday to prepare the MSP for submission. We plan to also confirm the Call Committee at this special meeting.

Once the MSP is submitted and the Call Committee is selected, we will be moving forward with the call process. Pastor JP will be meeting with the Call Committee to review their roles, and the regulations and rules regarding the process. He will also be conducting mock interviews with them.

For some of you, this may seem like a long time coming, for others there is no rush. What is important is that we ensure that the MSP is comprehensive and explicit in expressing who we are, our expectations and needs, qualities we are seeking in a pastor, as well as how we will support the pastor. We want to receive qualified applicants who will meet the needs of our congregation.

As the process moves forward, we ask for your patience. God may send us the perfect candidate right away, or it may take some time. Either way, we know that he will care for us and guide us into the future with HIS plans for us.

In HIS Service,  
Renee Romerdahl

*God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them (Hebrews 6:10)*



## Property Cleanup

We are planning a before Holiday Property Cleanup Day on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 am. Let's get things spruced up for the Holidays. This will be the last cleanup day for the year. Please feel free to contact Sue M. for any questions.

## Flower Chart Available for 2025

The 2025 flower Calendar is here! Signups for the new year can begin in October. Thanks to the many members who provided flowers to add beauty to our services in 2024.



# Council Secretary's Report from the September 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 Laura McClellan.

This meeting included Pastor JP Sabbithi. He gave suggestions to improve our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) with the intention of getting it available to start looking for our new pastor.

Much time was taken on discussion of pastor compensation and it was decided to table until more figures were available. A special meeting was scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>.

There will be a bake sale on November 17<sup>th</sup> with proceeds going to community outreach special projects.

Treasurer Margie Terluin reported that giving for the week of September 24<sup>th</sup> was \$2,313. Year-to-date income is \$204,736.40 and year-to-date expenses are \$211,776.87.

Grass is set to go into the pre-school playground area the week of October 7-11<sup>th</sup>. More help may be needed to unload. Ohana strong will be painting the old container and would like to know colors. Council needs to decide on where to park the new bus.

Next regular meeting will be October 15, 2024, at 7:00 pm, to be held virtually. Special Meeting scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda M. Bode Stoltzfus

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



## Trunk or Treat

We had such a fun time last year with Trunk or Treat that we thought we would do it again. So, Trunk or Treat will be happening at the church from 5:00-7:00 pm, on October 31<sup>st</sup> of course. Everyone is welcome and all are encouraged to participate. If you are like Cate in the office and can't come up

with a good idea, there are kits available on Amazon at low prices and free shipping with prime. Just search Trunk or Treat kits. The more people we have that are willing to participate, the more memorable it will be for all of us. If you have any questions, please contact Vicki Nelson. The church will be providing the treats to hand out. Mahalo for all your help with this.

## A Look Ahead



Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, is All Saints Day. Please feel free to send the names of those who have passed during the last year to the office ([klc@kiheilutheran.org](mailto:klc@kiheilutheran.org)). Those names will be read aloud during the service. Please have those to the office by Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. If you choose, you may also bring a flower to represent those you have lost and place them into the vases that will be on a table in the front before service.

We will have some flowers available if you forget to bring those. There will be reminders the few weeks before.

There will be leaves available for you to write the names of loved ones you have lost that will be placed on the banners at the front of the church. We will start that on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned to the eblast and bulletin for more information. Mahalo.

Community Outreach will do a FUNDRAISER BAKESALE on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The team is looking for anyone willing to bake or buy goodies for that day. More details will be available in the coming month.



## Important Statistics

August	2023	2024
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	51—In Person 802—Streaming Views	47—In Person 100—Streaming Views
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach	204—In Person 3207—Streaming	189—In Person 400—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$23,934	\$11,429
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$160,228.37	\$151,903.40

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:**  
**October 15th, 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](https://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!)

Stacie Proctor	10/3
Karen Gucci	10/5
Marcia Stafford	10/7
Bev Schifferling	10/9
Nicholas Scibelli	10/10
Gail Caires	10/15
Paul Emanovsky	10/21

Sanni Tharp	10/25
Dave Krueger	10/26
Dave Mather	10/27
Bob Nelson	10/28
Jake Hangartner	10/30
Brooke Cuomo	10/31



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

Mark Haley & Larry Manning	October 4, 1986
John & Kristi Bendon	October 9, 2004





# Kihei Lutheran Church October 2024



SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
29	9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	30	10am Faith Journey— Zoom	1	12pm Al-Anon 6pm Special Council Meeting	2	11:30am Rotary	3	5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	4	12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE	5	9am Ohana & Keiki Exchange
6—Keolahou Food Pantry		7	10am Faith Journey— Zoom <b>Don't Forget</b>	8	12pm Al-Anon 5pm Finance Committee <b>to call</b>	9	11:30am Rotary <b>People to</b>	10	9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	11	12pm Al-Anon 1:15pm PB & J Making <b>on them</b>	12	
13	9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	14	10am Faith Journey— Zoom 7pm Worship Committee	15	12pm Al-Anon 7pm Church Council	16	11:30am Rotary	17	9am Prayer Shawl 1pm Hygiene Bag Making 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	18	12pm Al-Anon	19	8am Ke Alii Kai Meeting
20	9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	21	10am Faith Journey <b>Don't Forget</b>	22	12pm Al-Anon <b>to call</b>	23		24	9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	25—Newsletter Deadline	12pm Al-Anon <b>on them</b>	26	9am Little Hoku Open House
27	9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	28	10am Faith Journey— Zoom	29	8am Insurance Seminar 12pm Al-Anon	30		31	9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Trunk or Treat	1	12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE	2	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**

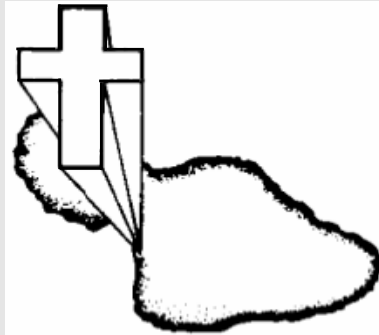
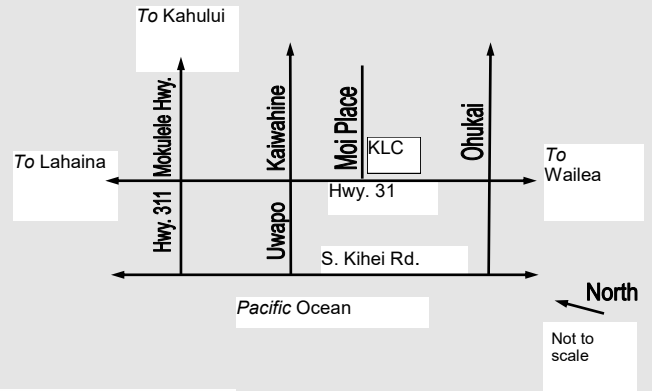
Chimes & Choir Director	Beth Fobbe-Wills
Flowers	Andrea Harris
Hosts Coordinator	Marilyn Hopkins
Worship Assistants/Readers	Zel Terluin

**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  
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[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”*

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