



# KLC 'Ohana News

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



**FEBRUARY 2024**

**KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Interim Pastor Ron Rucker**

## Congregational Meeting

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 23RD

The annual congregational meeting has been scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the congregation with annual reports from the various committees, task forces, and ministries. Please make plans to attend this meeting. Stay tuned to the Eblast and announcements for any

updates and for a digital copy of the report when it becomes available on February 6th (eblast digital version) and February 9th (hard copy).

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday will be here sooner that you think. March 5th is the day. We will be having an evening service that day, but stay tuned to the eblast and next months newsletter for the time. Mahalo for your understanding.



## Jeane Raine Memorial

The family of Jeane Raine wants to give everyone a head up as to the planned memorial for Jeane. The service will be March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at Kihei Lutheran. A Celebration of Life will be held the next day, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm at Auntie Kali's Cottage, 530 Kumulani Drive in Kihei.





Ron R Rucker

## ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Aloha from Pastor Ron,



Last month both Renee Romerdahl, President of the Congregation, and I wrote about change coming to KLC. What many of you may not know is that both of us had written our letters **prior** to learning that Beth and Cate were planning to leave KLC and Maui for Minnesota. So, the coming change for KLC is much greater than we anticipated but it does not change the facts that first and foremost God is leading the way because God has a plan for KLC. Second, change is never necessarily bad unless we choose to let the change become bad. KLC has a great group of leaders and a congregation willing to get into the nitty-gritty when needed. Your leaders are already looking at what we have done in years gone by compared to what we have been doing in more recent years. This is a great time to relook at needs, processes, structures and, of course, wants. If you or somebody you know might be interested in helping accompany worship on Sundays, leading choir or chimes, picking hymns, and selecting worship liturgy, let us know. The same thing applies to administration and procedures. And while I am mentioning it, there is a nominating committee looking for members to be on the church council. And, even if you don't want to be on council, KLC needs more people to volunteer to help with the many different teams and activities being offered at KLC such as administration, fellowship, finance, outreach, property, spiritual gifts (stewardship), spiritual growth (education both adult and children), and worship. As we have been learning the last few weeks, we all **have** gifts and interests and it is important for us to make those available to our congregation, our ohana. It just takes a conversation, email, phone call, or text to get involved.

A pastor friend of mine recently shared this meme with the comment following.

When you learn  
how to sit at  
the table with your Judas,  
you'll understand the  
love of Jesus Christ.

So very hard. I've sat with a couple, but they would be surprised that I think of them that way. That is the problem though - Judas didn't think of himself as a Judas either. I struggle with the thought that Judas is lost and unforgivable; right now I don't believe that.

I can tell you that this has been and continues to be an area of growth for me this last year. When I think about Jesus and the disciples in that upper room, Jesus is talking and teaching, and then Jesus washes the disciples' feet including Judas' in an act of complete servitude, and then Jesus follows it up with the first Eucharist, Holy Communion, including Judas once again. It seems to make the idea of forgiving and repenting among many other "requirements" for partaking in the Eucharist a little, if you will, ridiculous. Similar dogma, requirements, and traditions were what Jesus took issue with the Pharisees about. It is why I am so adamant about the Eucharist being the gift of God, hosted by God, and that all – **absolutely all** – should be welcome.

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pastor Ron leads by example and shows humanity to others by his display of genuine empathy, grace and compassion toward others. He answered God's call and came to us as our interim minister two years ago. During that time, he has embraced us, loved us, and nurtured us. He has been at our side as we have been journeying together through the transition and healing processes.

Pastor Ron has been extremely supportive and involved in the life and ministry at KLC. He attends all committee meetings, community outreach projects and social events. He has played a significant role in our community outreach. Pastor Ron is the one who took initiative and applied for the grants from Lutheran Disaster Relief. These grants were significant in our being able to support the needs of our local community. Pastor Ron also recognizes and embraces local culture and the needs of others.

It seems appropriate that this month I take a moment to recognize him and express the gratitude and love that the congregation and I have for him. Think of this as a valentine message to our pastor.

A valentine message should also go out to the members and friends of the congregation. The love, support, and caring that you so generously give is what makes KLC such a special place.

I think Ubuntu describes our congregation because we are connected together through Christ as an ohana and our identities are shaped by this relationship. We believe in showing humanity to others, showing grace, compassion and empathy as Christ has shown us.

"I am because we are",

Renee Romerdahl

*Galatians 3:28 "You are all one in Christ Jesus"*

## Call Committee Update



The KLC Call Committee met with Pastor JP Sabbithi and had our mock interview on January 3, 2025. Pastor JP is the regional assistant for Hawaii to the Pacifica Synod and to Bishop Dave Nagler. We can now confirm that (as of this writing), the committee has received three Rostered Minister Profiles (candidates) for our review. We are also working with Pastor JP on securing other interested candidates. As we review the profiles, we will discern which candidate(s) we will interview. Virtual interviews of candidates will begin mid-February 2025. The Call Committee will continue to update the congregation as developments occur and as allowed by the Synod. Your prayers and support are appreciated. Call Committee members are Marty Atrops, Andrea Harris, Laura McClellan, Sue Moorcroft, Phil Proctor (chair), and Margie Terluin.

## Council Secretary's Report from the January 2025 Council Meeting



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

Pastor Ron Rucker reported that finances and attendance is trending up. He feels the congregation is in more the right place than in many areas.

Treasurer Margie Terluin reported that the giving for the week of January 14 was \$3,303.01. Year-to-date income is \$13,909.04 and year-to-date expenses are \$9,417.91. The balance in the General Fund as of 12/31 is \$84,052.37.

Congregational reports are due 1/24/25.

Preschool contract was discussed and approved to renew the contract for another year.

The agenda for the February 23<sup>rd</sup> congregational meeting was approved.

The nominating committee will be comprised of council members whose terms are up. They will be approved at the congregational meeting. The hope is to get 2 people from the congregation to help with this, but if that is not possible, there are enough members going off council to search for new council members.

It was voted to approve a land recognition statement for our church bulletin. This thanks the Hawaiian people for use of the land for our church building.

The staffing changes were discussed and council was asked over the next month to think about what the positions of administrative assistant and music coordinator would want to look like. It could be different than what is currently in place.

A long discussion was had about property needs. Things have fallen by the wayside with both the church property and the parsonage. Before we get a new pastor, some things need to be addressed. The sooner things are looked at the less expensive it will be.

The next regular meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in person.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda M. Bode Stoltzfus, Co-Secretary

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



## COME DANCE WITH ME

This is an invitation to everyone to come to KLC to enjoy some time together as we do some easy and fun line dances. This will be on Friday, February 21st, at 5:00. Bring a dish to share and the drink of your choice. We will provide water and lemonade.

You can have two left feet and no rhythm and still line dance. It's all about having a good time. Marilyn Hopkins teaches line dancing at Kaunoha Senior Center and will teach some easy and fun dances to us. All you need to know is how to count to 8 and listen to her voice. Even if you don't want to dance, come join in the comradery. We guarantee a good time.



## Important Statistics

December	2023	2024
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	142—In Person 393—Reach	131—In Person 192—Streaming Views
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach (Facebook had gotten better at counting views)	709—In Person 1,917—Streaming	656—In Person 962—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$46,603.92	\$42,390.04
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$267,321	\$270,342.44

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. If this is a ministry you care about, please consider a donation. We rely on donations to purchase more yarn and are in need of some more funds. Mahalo for your help.

The Prayer Shawl Ladies



**Church Council**

Next Meeting will be:  
February 19, at 6:00 PM  
in Person



## 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!)**

Jeff Wright	2/3
Stephanie Mohr	2/5
Simon Stoltzfus	2/7
Jan McDonald	2/8
Harper Hottendorf	2/9
Dave Reader	2/10
Kathleen Reiser	2/10
Jeanie Vance	2/11
Brad Hill	2/14

Carol Wakefield	2/14
Billie Moksnes	2/15
Kayana Kamoku	2/15
Connie Pluchos	2/19
Marilyn Hopkins	2/22
Richard Gesch	2/25
Lanyssa Kennedy	2/27
Jeff Baker	2/27



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

David & Sally Handley	February 14, 1985
Edward & Lindsay Schafer	February 23, 1986
Jack & Nancy Jorden	February 28, 1960
Bryan & Megan Pearl	February 29, 2012



# Kihei Lutheran Church February 2025

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
26 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	27 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	28 12pm Al-Anon	29	30 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	31 12pm Al-Anon	1 930am Little Hoku Open House	2 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	3 10am Faith Journey— Zoom <b>Don't Forget</b>	4 12pm Al-Anon <b>to call</b>	5 11:30am Rotary <b>People to</b>	6 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	7 11am PB&J Making 12pm Al-Anon 3pm Pre-Set for OKE <b>on them</b>	8 9am Ohana Strong
9 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	10 10am Faith Journey— Zoom 7pm Worship Committee	11 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Finance Committee	12 11:30am Rotary	13 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	14 12pm Al-Anon	15 9am Call Committee 12am Call Committee	9 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	10 10am Faith Journey— Zoom <b>Don't Forget</b>	11 12pm Al-Anon <b>to call</b>	12 11:30am Rotary <b>People to</b>	13 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	14 12pm Al-Anon	15 9am Call Committee 12am Call Committee
16 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	17 10am Faith Journey	18 12pm Al-Anon <b>to call</b>	19 11:30am Rotary 6pm Church Council <b>People to</b>	20 9am Prayer Shawl 11pm Hygiene Bags 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	21 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Line Danancing <b>on them</b>	22— <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:30am Kihei Canoe Club 9am Call Committee	16 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	17 10am Faith Journey <b>Don't Forget</b>	18 12pm Al-Anon <b>to call</b>	19 11:30am Rotary <b>People to</b>	20 9am Prayer Shawl 11pm Hygiene Bags 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes <b>check in</b>	21 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Line Danancing <b>on them</b>	22— <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:30am Kihei Canoe Club 9am Call Committee
23— <b>Congregational Annual Meeting</b> 9am Worship 10am Congregational Meeting 3pm Tongan Church	24 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	25 12pm Al-Anon	26	27 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	28 12pm Al-Anon	1	23— <b>Congregational Annual Meeting</b> 9am Worship 10am Congregational Meeting 3pm Tongan Church	24 10am Faith Journey— Zoom	25 12pm Al-Anon	26	27 9am Prayer Shawl 5pm Choir 6pm Chimes	28 12pm Al-Anon	1

**Staff**

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

**Worship Area Coordinators**

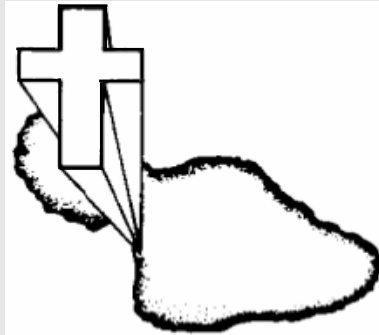
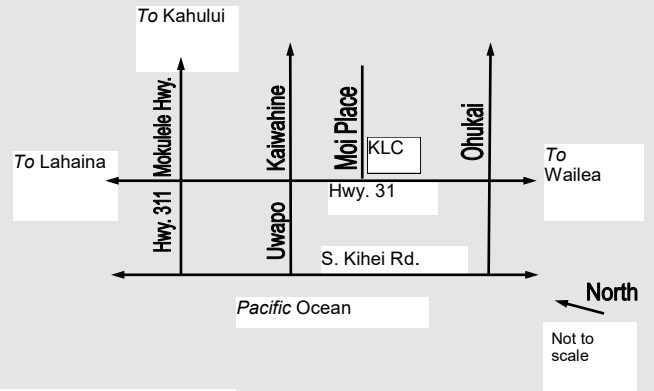
Chimes & Choir Director Beth Fobbe-Wills  
 Flowers Andrea Harris  
 Hosts Coordinator Marilyn Hopkins  
 Worship Assistants/Readers Zel Terluin

**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  
**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”*

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