

KLC 'Ohana News

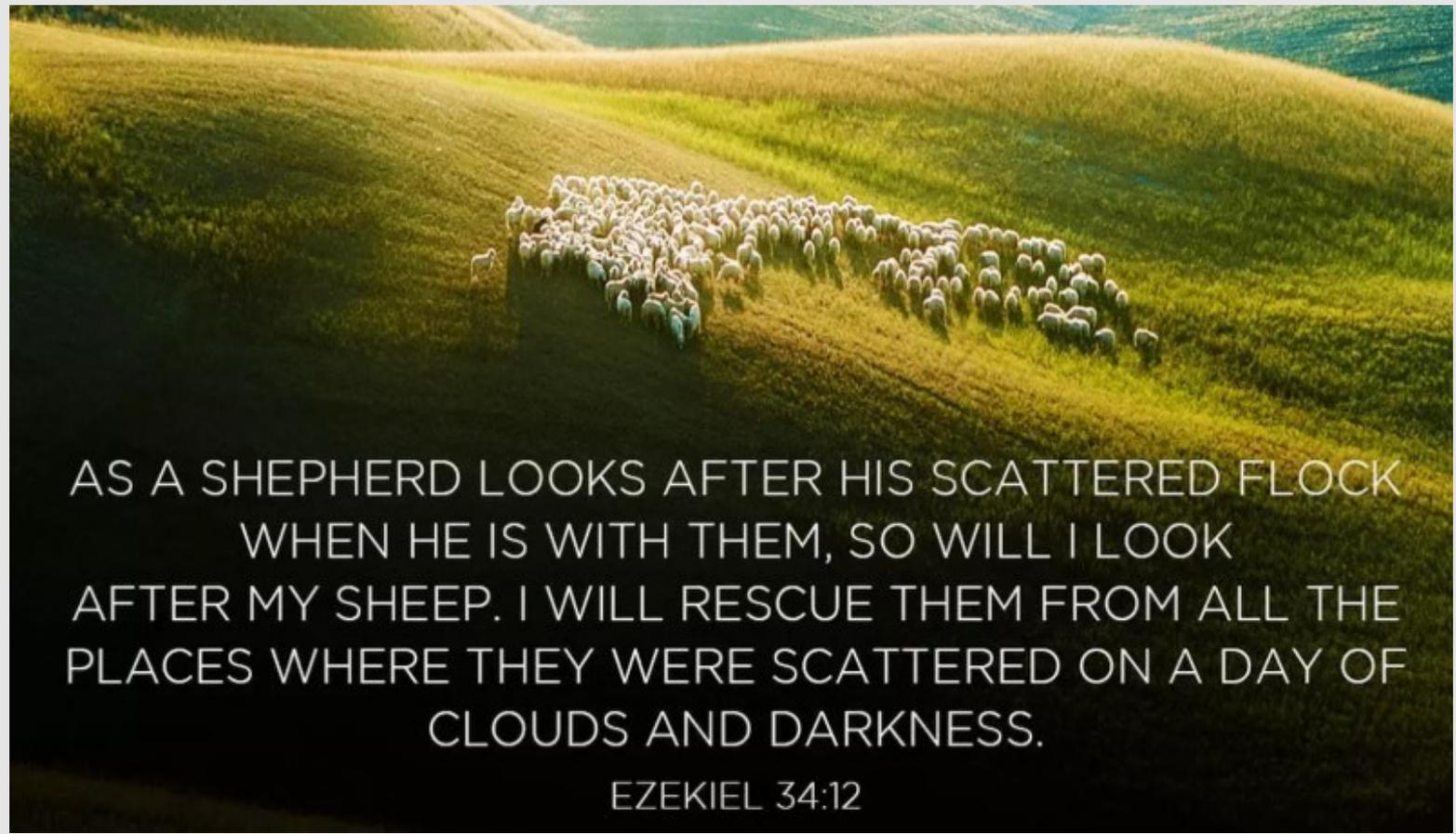
To Share the love and word of God through worship and service to others.



JANUARY 2026

KIHEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Interim Pastor Ron Rucker



AS A SHEPHERD LOOKS AFTER HIS SCATTERED FLOCK WHEN HE IS WITH THEM, SO WILL I LOOK AFTER MY SHEEP. I WILL RESCUE THEM FROM ALL THE PLACES WHERE THEY WERE SCATTERED ON A DAY OF CLOUDS AND DARKNESS.

EZEKIEL 34:12

Keolahou Food Pantry

Food donations will be collected this Sunday, January 4, 2026. If you are unable to bring your items that day, donations may be dropped off at the church office during the week, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this ministry.



FILL THE PANTRY



Ron R
Rucker

ALOHA FROM PASTOR RON RUCKER

Alo-
ha from Pastor Ron,



First, I will be off island for three Sundays this month. I have a follow up appointment on January 9th at the Fred Hutchison Cancer Center in Seattle. Nanette and I will follow that up with a little vacation time in Florida and Georgia. We will visit my 85-year old brother, Will, who is now having some health issues in St Augustine along with his wife Kate. They and another sister-in-law, Cathy, visited here in September 2024. We will also visit Cathy in the Florida panhandle. The we will go up into Georgia to visit a niece, and then onto to Atlanta to visit Larry and Mark. We will return to St Augustine for one last short visit with my brother before we fly home to Maui. It doesn't seem strange anymore to call Maui home but I must admit that Nanette and I are already struggling with what life will be like in the future when we return to Wasilla and no longer call KLC and Maui home.

Apparently, as far as scholars can determine, Martin Luther never actually used the term "The Priesthood of all believers." The closest he comes is "general priesthood of all baptized Christians." This may just be semantics but it is a generally recognized Martin Luther doctrine to come out of the reformation called the Priesthood of all Believers. It is essentially a statement of equality. An article I recently read on this subject suggests implications for today, of which, I will cite only two.

First, we are to remember that leaders and laity are both justified by faith alone in God alone. Second, we are to respect and give due honor to those who serve a leadership role in the church, however, we are not to invest them with some special spiritual power. This doctrine, these implications are crucial to understanding my concept of my ministry. It is in this vain that I cited some comments from an article by former megachurch pastor Jim Palmer on Christmas Eve. I believe these precepts don't belong just to me or Father Chris, or Bishop Dave, or any other church leader you want to name. I believe these precepts belong to and are important to all of us believers. That is why I choose now to share the entire list with you: Putting theology over God. Putting Christianity over Jesus. Putting church over community Putting orthodoxy over love. Putting certainty over wonder. Putting sermons over conversations. Putting polished over real. Putting explanations over empathy. Putting answers over questions. Putting membership over friendship. Putting preaching over listening. Putting prayer over action. Putting services over self-care. Putting style over substance. Putting appearance over authenticity. Putting discipleship over therapy. Putting religiosity over spirituality. Putting numbers over faces. Putting holiness over humanity. Putting accountability over acceptance. Putting heaven over earth. Putting meetings over relationships. Putting reputation over risk. Putting ego over humility. Putting charisma over compassion. Putting the afterlife over the herelife. Putting doctrine over reason. Putting patriarchy over equality. In essence, what I am saying, is that I believe it is important to put a positive relationship with God, others, and all of creation over any doctrines or things the world tells us are more important than any relationship.

Blessings to all of you as we journey together this Christmas and Epiphany seasons.

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



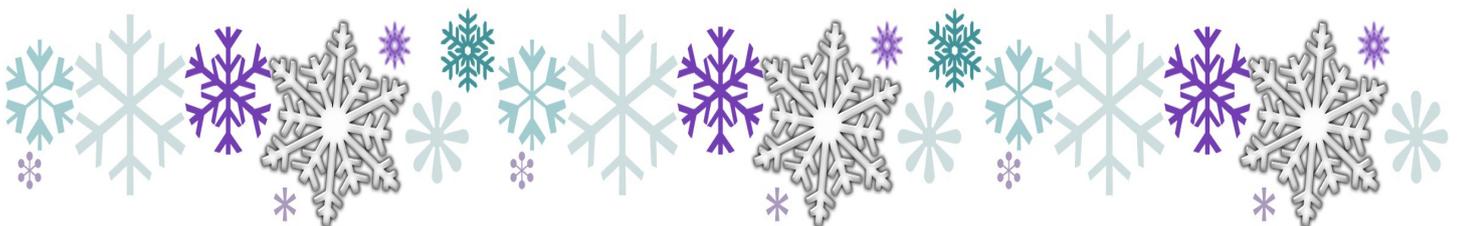
Presidents Message

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's time to look back at 2025. It has been a true blessing to serve on church council, and now as president these last 6 months, I've found challenges and blessings I didn't expect: New staff that have stepped into really big shoes and done amazing at filling them up! Starting work on some much needed repairs and finding partners to help financially. Then being blessed with an opportunity to start a "pay the mortgage off in 2027" campaign. I'm always blown away by how big our God is and what he can do through us! KLC is an incredible family! Mahalo for letting me be apart of it.

In Christ's love,

Vicki



Council Secretary's Report from the December 2025 Council Meeting



Kihei Lutheran Council met December 16th and opened with a devotions and prayer by Laura McClellan on "Who Is My Neighbor?" Ron updated us all on his anticipated travels in January and his past travels to Honolulu. He had the opportunity to visit with JP while on Oahu and discuss future opportunities for KLC.

Vicki reported that a few more pledges have come in and several people voiced excitement about possibly paying off the mortgage. Shannon's friend rebuilt the bench at the church and is getting us a quote on replacing the back doors that are severely damaged. We were all happy to hear that the broken A/C will be replaced over the Christmas break.

Margie gave us the rundown on the finances for the week. As of December 16, general giving was at \$6,254.00. Year to date giving is \$327,117.23 and expenditures are at \$296,315.40. We have \$116,371.11 in the general account. Margie also filled us in on Community Outreach. They have been BUSY this year! Hundreds of hygiene bags have been (or will be!) donated, 10,812 items went to the food pantry, and over 100 toys were delivered. Many thanks to Hilary, Marilyn, Renee, Margie, Zel, and all the others participating in these worthy causes for KLC. Pastor Ron, Nanette, Hilary, and Sue M all attended the Cup of Cold Water luncheon. The organization gave recognition to KLC for our support and expressed gratitude towards the church.

A date was chosen for the next attempt at an all church meeting. Please mark your calendars for February 1st! Be there or be square - we need to make quorum in order to move forward.

We were also reminded that each team at KLC needs to turn in a short and sweet year end report. They are due in the office by January 15th.

We spent a few minutes discussing the Christmas Eve services. Things are moving along and we look forward to hearing from both the Greek Orthodox Church and the Tongan Church throughout the evening.

Heather and Nancy have been hard at work on updating the constitution - the church's, not the nation's. They have made great progress on the first portion. Council was asked to review several highlighted areas to make some suggestions on changes. This will free them up to move forward with the next portion. We look forward to seeing the end result of this VERY BIG task!

We adjourned with prayer at 8:15 p.m. and look forward to our next meeting on January 20th.

Respectfully Submitted, Rhonda Stoltzfus - Council Secretary

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

Keolahou Food Pantry

Community Outreach completed its 2025 ministry delivering Keolahou FP's 100 hygiene and Christmas snack bags, along with tables of boxed and canned food. It was an awesome bounty of generosity that was shared with some less fortunate individuals and families. We donated over 10,000 individual items throughout the year. A huge Mahalo to Zel who has faithfully has loaded and delivered for so many years. Also, Mahalo to Pastor Ron for filling in and helping deliver. Jerry Kistler and Vicki Nelson were not available but would normally be helping out.

Mahalo to Eric Romerdahl who dropped off the 100+ toys that KLC provided, mainly purchased by our head elf Renee Romerdahl. Not only toys were given but wrapping paper and tape so the people can select an item or items for their Keiki and youth.

Also, Marilyn Hopkins continues to advocate on behalf of Feed My Sheep, so she met with Margie to make an additional 80 hygiene bags to have on hand before the holidays.

A special goodie bags and paper ornaments were given to FMS to share with the Keiki of the guests. We at Kihei Lutheran have been so blessed over the years, we look forward to increasing our generosity in 2026. Mahalo Nui loa to all congregation members and friends who support what we do.

Sincerely and fondest Aloha,

Margie Terluin - Co-Chair for COAT



Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas service was truly lovely, filled with beautiful music, joyful dancing, and a meaningful keiki message that touched hearts of all ages. The powerful voices of the Tongan Choir enriched our worship and lifted our spirits. We extend our heartfelt mahalo to Pastor Ron for his faithful leadership over the past three Christmases, and to both Pastor Ron and Nanette for their continued love and dedication to our church family. We were also blessed by the presence of our Greek Orthodox friends, a wonderful reminder of the beauty and unity found in our multicultural faith community as we gathered together to celebrate the birth of Christ.





Keiki Christmas

A huge mahalo to everyone for your generosity in supporting the Keholahou Food Pantry this holiday season.

Your donations to the Keiki Christmas purchased gifts for 100 children this year.

These pictures show some of the gifts that were purchased for them. Parents were able to select a gift at the pantry for each child and have it gift wrapped. You touched the lives of these families and made their holiday season a little brighter.





Fellowship Committee

Save the date! The Fellowship Committee will host Church Directory Tutorial Tables following worship on Sunday, January 18, 2026 and Sunday, January 25, 2026. Stop by for help updating your Instant Church Directory App information. Whether you'd like to update your photo, confirm your contact information, or change your listing information. Don't yet have a Church Directory? We will help you install the directory on your phone. Have questions? We'll have answers!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

You are amazing! We have received 33 pledge cards. Through the November stewardship drive you have donated or plan to donate \$221,470.71 to the general fund and \$29,450 to pay toward the mortgage. You also gave generously to the fish bowl for ice cream sundaes, giving over \$500. We can't thank you all enough. There are a lot of needs around us, and you have made it possible for KLC to provide help where help is needed and also to support our staff, our building and our parsonage.

Flower Chart Available for 2026

The 2026 flower Calendar is here! Signups for the new year will begin in October. Mahalo to the wonderful members who provided flowers to add beauty to our services in 2025



Community Outreach for Christmas Community Outreach December 12 PB& J's and luncheon

Our group of Dedicated sandwich makers met to assemble the 160 sandwiches for A Cup Of Cold Water.

After the sandwiches were completed, an appreciation luncheon was held to thank all current and previous helpers in this ministry. It was so nice that Shannon left her busy desk in the office to come and break bread with the ladies. The food was good but the company was even better. We had fun and enjoyed our time for an extra hour.

Each helpers that assisted 5 or more times received a special gift .

A huge mahalo to the ladies and gentleman who continue on with this monthly ministry.

Also, an even hugest mahalo to Hilary for taking point on the organization of the volunteers



Community Outreach

Anyone interested in attending its 2026 planning session to please come to a meeting on Saturday January 24th at 10:00 am.

This ministry is one of KLC's primary focus in 2026 and we welcome our current team as well as those who want to become more involved in this rewarding way to help our Maui Community and beyond.

Contact Margie Terluin or Hilary Glassel for more information

Living Lutheran

"Living Lutheran is your free source for news, reflections and stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its local and global companions. This online magazine covers religious news and social issues, congregational life, global and domestic mission, family matters, spiritual practices and resources, and more."

Click [here](#) for the link to visit the Living Lutheran Magazine



HAU'OLI LA HANAU! (Happy Birthday!)

 **JANUARY**
Birthdays

Jack Bendon	1/1
Loretta Dahlin	1/6
Doak Schoennemann	1/6
Valaida D'Alessio	1/7
Carol Swanson	1/9
Mark Beyersdorf	1/10
Taylor Steed (Rudow)	1/10

Kathy Krueger	1/14
Sue Olson	1/15
Jerry Kistler	1/17
Oliver Stafford	1/17
Steve Moksnes	1/29
Elaine Ziegler	1/29
Dave Ballaine	1/30

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



Anthony & Malysa Scibelli January 5, 2010
Eric & Elisabet Jorgenson January 23
Jerry & Susan Embree January 25, 1963

COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2026 VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

A Cup of Cold Water (ACCW)

Feed My Sheep (FMS)

Maui Rescue Mission (MRM)

(note: starting time for all events is 11:00 am)

January

9 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
15 Hygiene Bags for FMS

February

5 Snack Bags for ACCW
5 Hygiene Bags for ACCW
6 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

March

6 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
Hygiene Bags for MRM

April

10 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
16 Hygiene Bags for FMS

May

7 Snack Bags for ACCW
7 Hygiene Bags for ACCW
8 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

June

12 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
18 Hygiene Bags for MRM

July

10 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
16 Hygiene Bags for FMS

August

6 Snack Bags for ACCW
6 Hygiene Bags for ACCW
7 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

September

11 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
17 Hygiene Bags for MRM

October

9 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
15 Hygiene Bags for FMS

November

5 Snack Bags for ACCW
5 Hygiene Bags for ACCW
6 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW

December

11 PBJ Sandwiches for ACCW
17 Hygiene Bags for MRM

If you have questions or you would like to let know when you're available.

Margie Terluin: margiet3511@gmail.com or 808-874-5049, Hilary Glassel

hilary.glassel@gmail.com 808-359-7713

Kihei Lutheran Church January 2023

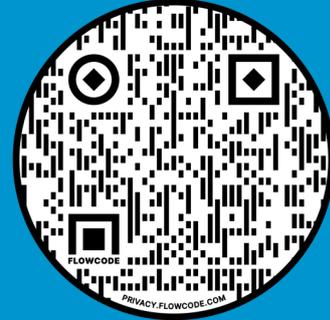


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 8:15 Choir 9am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	29 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	30 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	31 New Years Eve	1 New Years Day Office Closed 9am Prayer Shawl	2 12pm Al-Anon	3 1:30 Maui Greek Orthodox Mission
4 Keolahou Food Pantry 8:15 Choir 9am Worship 1:30pm Maui Mission 3pm Tongan Church	5 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	6 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	7 11:30am Rotary 4:30 Spiritual Growth 5pm Property Team	8 9am Prayer Shawl	9 11am PB& J's 12pm Al-Anon 1pm Fellowship Committee 3pm Pre-Set for OKE	10 9am Ohana Strong
11 8:15 Choir 9:30 am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	12 10am Faith Journey-Zoom 7pm Worship Team-Zoom	13 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Finance Committee 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	14 11:30am Rotary	15 9am Prayer Shawl 11am Snack & Hygiene Bags	16 12pm Al-Anon	17 1:30 Maui Greek Orthodox Mission
18 8:15 Choir 9am Worship 1:30pm Maui Mission 3pm Tongan Church	19 10am Faith Journey	20 12pm Al-Anon 6pm Church Council-Hybrid	21 11:30 Rotary 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	22	23 12pm Al-Anon	24 8am Kihei Kai Nani HOA 10 Community Outreach
25 Newsletter Deadline 8:15 Choir 9:30am Worship 3pm Tongan Church	26 10am Faith Journey-Zoom	27 12pm Al-Anon 5pm Maui Greek Orthodox	28	29 9am Prayer Shawl	30 12pm Al-Anon	31 1:30 Maui Greek Orthodox Mission

Important Statistics

November	2024	2025
Average Sunday Worship Attendance	84—In Person 120—Streaming Views	67—In Person 85—Streaming Views
Total Attendance In Person and Streaming Reach (Facebook had gotten better at counting views)	336—In Person 479—Streaming	394—In Person 442—Streaming
Offerings For The Month (members & visitors)	\$39,820	\$38,902
Offerings – Year to Date (members & visitors)	\$227,952.40	\$264,392.23

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

The prayer shawl hui is starting their fall schedule of meeting on Thursdays 9:00-11:00 am. If you need a prayer shawl or have any questions please contact the office and Shannon 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



Next Meeting will be:
January 20th at 6:00pm
via Zoom

Administrative Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM—5:00 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!

Staff

✪ Pastor Interim Pastor Ron Rucker
 ✪ Music Coordinator Julia Golding
 ✪ Church Administrative Asst. Shannon Kama
 ✪ Bookkeeper Sue Whitney
 ✪ Sexton Kyle Wolfgang

Worship Area Coordinators

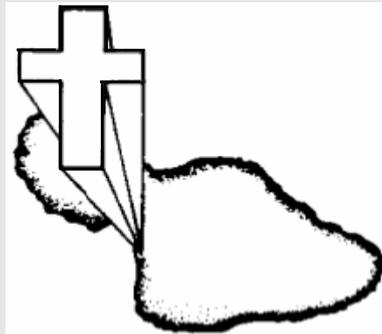
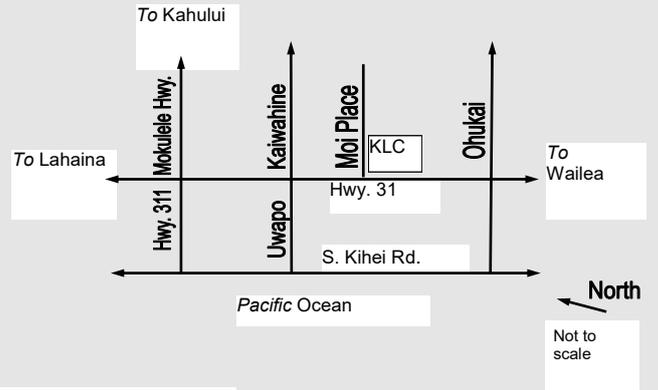
✪ Chimes & Choir Director Julia Golding
 ✪ Flowers Andrea Harris
 ✪ Hosts Coordinator Marilyn Hopkins
 ✪ Worship Assistants/Readers Zel Terluin

Other Contacts

✪ Treasurer Margie Terluin
 ✪ Financial Secretary Marilyn Hopkins
 ✪ Hula Group Sally Handley
 ✪ E-mail Prayer Chain Shannon Kama

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 AM



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

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Kihei Lutheran Church
 220 Moi Place
 Kihei, Maui, Hawaii 96753
 (808) 879-7979