May is a significant month! May began with Lei Day. While in countries, it is a day to show military strength. The lei represents the gift of Aloha, and being in the presence of the Divine.

The Second Sunday is Mother’s day, a significant day in the life of the church as we celebrate the love of God that comes to most of us through our mothers who loved us with no strings attached. Of course there are some mothers who may be abusive, but most mothers are loving and would give their lives for their children and families.

May 15, 2016
Pentecost Sunday
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17, John 14:8-17

May 22, 2016
Trinity Sunday
Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

May 29, 2016
1 Kings 18:20-39
Psalm 96
Gal. 1:1-12
Luke 7:1-10

Birthdays

**MAY**

May 2          Andrew Poepeo
May 6          Edward Kahihikolu
May 7          Dane Pestano
May 9          David Malani
May 10         Kimo Keaulana
May 12         Charles Kealoha
May 14         Donna Ede
May 18         David Kaneo
May 21         Lori-Ann Lukalo
May 22         Mason Maeshiro
May 25         John Cortez Jr.
May 26         Mark Crabbe
May 27         Keo Mills
May 29         Roger Ede
May 31         Hi‘ilei Naanao

If you do not see your birthday listed, it means the office does not have the information on file. Please contact the office with your information and we will update our records.

**May Flowers**

May 1:    Happy Lei Day– Andrew & Jaya Poepoe
May 8:    In Memory of Elizabeth Aarona
May 15:   Kimo Keaulana
May 22:   Aloha Committee
May 29:   David & Ruby Kaneo

The Kaumakapili Church Mission Statement

Kaumakapili Church, thankful for the gifts received from God, founded in 1838 for the maka‘āinana, the common folk, rich in Hawaiian tradition and diverse backgrounds, bounded in covenant with all in the United Church of Christ, led by the Spirit, declares its mission to glorify God by bearing the fruits of God’s aloha and gifts, and so proving to be faithful disciples of Christ, who are equipped for the work of the ministry of proclaiming the good news for all people: by witnessing in word and deed, by serving those in need, by welcoming and receiving all people into the church fellowship, and by nurturing and equipping the church members for the growth of the Body of Christ.

May is a significant month in Kaumakapili’s life. May began with Lei Day. While in countries, it is a day to show military strength. The lei represents the gift of Aloha, and being in the presence of the Divine.

The Second Sunday is Mother’s day, a significant day in the life of the church as we celebrate the love of God that comes to most of us through our mothers who loved us with no strings attached. Of course there are some mothers who may be abusive, but most mothers are loving and would give their lives for their children and families.

On the Third Sunday of May, we will celebrate Pentecost. It is the birthday of the CHURCH and
Why Go To Church?

Deut. 29:10-16

If you’re spiritually alive, you’re going to love this! If you’re spiritually dead, you won’t want to read it. If you’re spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church-goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. “I’ve gone for 30 years now,” he wrote, “and in that time I have heard, something like 3000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can’t remember a single one of them. So, I think I’m wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.”

This started a real controversy in the “Letters to the Editor” column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

“I’ve been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this...They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!

When you are DOWN to nothing...God is UP to something. Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

Prayer

The secret to joy, I have discovered is in finding Joy’s source. Moods may come and go but joy can remain through them all when God remains my wellspring of joy. Knowing that you are true to Your word. I have confidence in Your promises and this brings a constant flow of rejoicing in my spirit. When circumstances trouble me, help me focus on the assurances You have given in scripture and let your Joy fill me once again.

Amen.

Shared with Aloha from our Nomination’s Committee

Reading from Daily Grace, by Rose Knuckle, Devotional for April 20, pg. 179-180
CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to our own Uncle Mel Spencer!

Seven of his Naʻau students won awards in this year’s Board of Water Supply’s Water Conservation Week Poster & Poetry Contest. He had 6 poster winners and 1 poetry winner.

Uncle Mel has been entering his students in the Poster Contest since 2004 and has had winners every year since then. In 2009, when the Poetry Contest began, Uncle Mel’s students have won every year as well. Naʻau has had winners in both contests since 2009. Amazing work, Uncle Mel!

Pledge Income

Pledge income news continues to be great! We have increased our pledge income lead over what we achieved last year. For the first four months in 2016 we are ahead of last year by $8,232.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>$49,203</td>
<td>$40,971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>$50,360</td>
<td>$42,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>$53,000</td>
<td>$44,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our initial goal for this year is to reach $135,140 in pledge income. This amount matches the record level of pledge income that our Church received in 2014. To reach this goal we must receive a minimum of $11,300 in every month. For the first four months in 2016 we averaged more than that - we averaged $12,301 per month. To repeat what I said in this month’s article and in last month’s article, we are off to a great start this year.

However! My article next month might not be as cheerful. In May 2015 we set a record high of pledge income in one month. Matching that record this year will be quite an achievement, but let’s see what happens during the month. There are five Sundays in May and that gives us another week to receive pledge income. I’ll cover all of this in my news article next month.

http://www.ucc.org/stc/

Outreach Ministry News

1st Quarter Food Bank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Families Served</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Last two(2) days in March (homeless) will be included in April’s numbers.

TOTALS 1st Quarter: 1721

Mahalo for continued support from our congregation and others (First Chinese Church, St. Therese’s Church & School). The upcoming Hawaii Food Bank Annual State Food Drive on April 16, 2016 is on our horizon.

The Outreach committee will be there to help out as much as we can. Go out & support the food drive by dropping off cans goods at the nearest site for you. Mahalo again.

Serving our homeless is ongoing. We also have been serving them food packages, toiletries, and clothing as available to us by donations.

Outreach Committee

Submitted by,
Wendy Ann Garcia, Chair
David Kaneao, Committee Member

Food Bank Volunteer Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Strengthen the Church Offering</td>
<td>7:30-9:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>Sunday School - Hoike Sunday</td>
<td>7:30-10:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td>King Kamehameha Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adopt a Block

A group of volunteers from Kaumakapili Church assisted our local police department and volunteers from our community Saturday, April 30th for their Kalihi-Palama adopt a block neighborhood cleanup.

The team removed debris from Pua Lane, Kanoa Street and Palama Street.

Blessing at Princess Victoria Kaʻiulani School

On May 10th, Kahu Sherman Thompson and Kona Mann officiated a blessing for Princess Kaʻiulani School. As a church we work closely with Kaʻiulani School to support its outreach programs and provide spiritual support to the surrounding community they serve.

On April 6th there was a fire set to the historic banyan tree on their property. This is the second time since 2011 that the tree has been vandalized and set on fire.

Here are excerpts from the Star Advertiser about the history of the tree:

“The 117-year-old banyan tree is a treasure to the elementary school in Kailihi that bears Kaʻiulani’s name. It was a gift to the campus from Kaʻiulani’s father the year after the young princess died—a little tree rooted from Kaʻiulani’s favorite banyan that stood outside her home at Ainahau. The little tree grew as the campus grew, spreading out near the basketball court off Robello Lane. Every year, the schoolchildren celebrate Kaiulani’s birthday in October, gathering on the lawn and performing songs and dances that tell her life.”

“Princess Kaʻiulani, born in 1875, was heir to the throne. She grew up at Ainahau, an estate in Waikiki. There are stories of how she loved to play the throne. She grew up at Ainahau, an estate in England in 1889:

... Her islands here, in Southern sun,
Shall mourn their Kaiulani gone,
And I, in her dear banyan shade,
Look vainly for my little maid.

That tree lived on at what is now Tusitala Street until 1949.

Because of its age and provenance, the Kaiulani Elementary tree was designated an “exceptional tree” and protected by law. There is a fence around it, but that didn’t ward off arsonists.

Though the tree was damaged by the fire, the school community did not want to give up on it.

Lloyd Shimazu, school grounds specialist for the Department of Education, worked with the City’s Exceptional Tree Committee to assess what could be done.”


BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

“O Oe Pono, E Lehova, Thou Art Worthy, O Lehova

Mahalo nui loa for your continuous support through your generous gifts and talents to our Halepule. You are helping to fulfill a core Christian value that Jesus tried to teach constantly, living generously as “na kaauw maikaʻi o ke Aka”, servants of God.

In order to empower youth to build the future of the United Church of Christ, the annual Strengthen the Church special offering will be taken on Pentecost Sunday, the 15th of May. The money will support the youth and young adult ministries, new church construction, and grants to help congregations communicate the “God is still speaking” message.

In our state, the offering imparts life into new local church projects, especially those focused on youth ministry, and through Christian Investment Grants administered by the Stewardship Missional Team.

The HCUC Church Leaders Event in February presented ideas for the stewardship of gifts, assets and resources. Some of the workshops centered on 1) Four “I”s for successful fundraising - Inform, Involve, Inspire and Invite. The facilitator guaranteed that if you follow these steps the church in your community will always increase. 2) Stewardship Strategies for Church Properties The presenter said we should consider ideas such as rental of our sanctuary, parking lot, classrooms and properties. 3)The “Money and My Church” session advised “rather than asking for pledges to fulfill our budget, talk about what is important to donors such as using money in ways that align with donors values.” Being part of a mission is all important. For details on the above see the HCUC Church Leaders Event.

How Ministry Teams Get Things Done

Setting up a Team to Succeed

Creating an effective team requires intentionality and accountability. First, the team’s purpose must be clearly defined by the group. For example, if a team achieves its purpose, what will be the result or impact? What will be different because of the team’s work? Teams can get distracted and over time expand their task list. Teams that state their purpose in writing and have continuing conversations about their focus tend to avoid wandering away from their original assignment.

Second, what type of team is needed? Understanding the distinct work of three types of teams enhances the probability that members with the right gifts will be recruited.

• Decision-making teams take on big-picture issues like making choices about a congregation’s vision, identifying the goals that move the church toward its next chapter in ministry, or outlining strategies for building financial stability. Strategic planning or visioning teams are good examples of this type of teamwork that eventually is taken under consideration by the entire congregation.

• Task-achieving teams undertake specific assignments important to the church’s mission. For example, a task team may take on the responsibility of providing a free breakfast to community residents each weekday in the church’s fellowship hall. Task teams are evaluated by how well they carry out their assignments.

• Self-directed teams assume a great deal of autonomy to accomplish their goals. For example, church leaders know they need to review their policies with regard to the use of church facilities by community groups. A team is formed to conduct the review, gather information, and make recommendations about rental policies and fees.

Third, how many people make up a good team? Research indicates that five to seven individuals is about the right size. For instance, Amazon.com, which operates with teams, suggests that team size is optimal when “two pizzas” can feed the team.

Team size operates independently of the size of the congregation. Even large congregations need to exercise discipline to keep teams in the two-pizza range.

Fourth, effective teams pay attention to the small issues. The following specific behaviors undermine a team when members fail to:

• show up or arrive on time for meetings
• respond to emails, texts, or other communications in a timely way
• demonstrate commitment to the work or complete assignments in a timely way
• show up or arrive on time for meetings
• share resources and credit for work well done

Finally, few teams operate effectively in a congregation struggling with dysfunction. A dysfunctional congregation is characterized by an absence of trust. Congregational leaders must earn trust and work to create trust within the congregation as whole.

“Every Member in Ministry”

One congregation that uses the ministry team model adopted “every member in ministry” as their motto. By involving a high percentage of members in team ministries, the church grew several hundred new ministries.

Congregations and other nonprofits are America’s largest employers. Volunteers show up for work in churches that “pay well.” The “salary” they seek is challenge, personal growth, opportunity to make a difference, and meaningful experiences and relationships.

How well does your church cultivate leaders?