Birthdays

**FEBRUARY**

February 2  
Kaori Martin  
Genevieve Ho’omana

February 5  
Frank Jahrling  
Stacey Balai  
Kahalelehua Balai

February 6  
Sione Vetekina

February 10  
Hau’oli Akaka

February 11  
Jo-An Goss  
Bruce Hirota

February 16  
Dennis Cuizon

February 17  
Elizabeth Werner  
Moani Wong

February 18  
Kamakanaokaloha Aquino  
Scott Balai

February 20  
Sharon Matsui

February 21  
Maxine Medeiros

February 28  
Marion Maunakea

February 29  
Kukui Martin  
Alfredo Garcia

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.

February Flowers

February 5:  
Hauoli La Hanau – Frank Jahrling

February 12:  
In Memory of Lorraine Maeshiro

February 19:  
Birthday~ Lynn & Dennis Cuizon

February 26:  
In Memory of George & Ethel Ahana

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.

To sign up for our e-newsletter visit kaumakapili.org. You can unsubscribe at anytime at kaumakapili@yahoo.com.

KA LEO O KEALOHA  
(The Voice of Love)

Kaumakapili Church 766 N. King St., Honolulu, HI 96817
Email: kaumakapili@yahoo.com  Website: www.kaumakapili.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/kaumakapili.org

“Nōlaila hoʻi, o ka mea lohe i kēia mau ‘o lelo aʻu, a mala hoʻi ia, E hoʻoialike ia ia me ke kanaka naʻauao, nana i kakulu kona hale maluna o ka pshaku.” [Mataio 7:24]

Aloha and Mahalo nui Rev. David & Sandra Hirano!

On January 29th after the service we had a lovely appreciation dinner for our Interim Team Ministry Leader, Rev. David Hirano and Mama Kahu Sandra. The Hiranos served at Kaumakapili Church from April 2015 to January 31, 2017. They both have been such a blessing to our church ohana and to the community.

The church extended them a warm aloha as they go on to new adventures. Rev. David and Sandra Hirano will continue to stay in touch and advise the team while we continue the Imi Ke Kahu process for a settled pastor.

Here are some pictures from the service:
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Let’s Talk: About Being Gentle with Yourself (and Others)

The Rev. Diane Weible

I have very dear friends and wonderful colleagues in ministry who often include in their emails or texts messages to me, “Be gentle with yourself or ‘Laughter’.” It sometimes surprises me when they seem to intuitively know when I need to hear those words. (And, they are even patient with me when I grumble because I don’t feel like laughing and my mood is anything but gentle.) I mentioned last week that I am having an internal feud within myself as to whether to look at the news headlines or bury my head in the sand. I don’t seem to have a choice this week because my phone keeps buzzing with a new headline that I “must see.” I feel my blood pressure and anxiety rising and I realize that now, more than ever, I need to be gentle with myself and I need to find space to laugh. I think we all need to be gentle with one another as well. Sometimes when we don’t know where to go or what to do with the anxiety we are feeling within ourselves, it spills over into our interactions with one another. That is not going to help us in the important work that lies ahead. The work we have to do is all about bringing the Christ light into our world to shine in those places where there is darkness. The work we have to do is all about making sure God’s love is felt by others—those who need to feel that love the most because of the hurt and pain they have experienced or the real fear that lies before them.

Earlier this week I met a woman who asked me what I do for a living. I told her. She asked what denomination and I told her that too. She told me she loves the UCC and appreciates the courage our denomination has had to diver from Israel. She then told me she is a Muslim and is active with Jewish Voice for Peace. Her gentle spirit and loving touch on my life was something I really needed in that moment. I felt that encounter with the awareness that while remembering to laugh and to be gentle with ourselves is wonderful advice, equally wonderful advice is to be gentle with one another and share laughter whenever possible. We cannot do this work alone. We need each other, now more than ever.

Last week a number of NCNC folks attended the Women’s March in Washington and even more attended the Marches in the Bay Area. (We hope that all those who marched will share their stories so we can share them with each other!) I just read a blog entitled “We Showed Up” from UCC Minister and Founder of Faith Trust Institute, Marie Fortune, about the Women’s March. She said, “So why did we march? It was really very selfish. We just needed to see each other, to know that we are not alone, that we are not crazy, that our experiences and world view are real, and that we will not be silenced by our fear.”

We needed to see each other. We needed to know we are not alone. Yes! Whatever you are feeling this week, I hope you can find time to laugh and space to be gentle with everyone you meet. You could offer someone the gift of grace without even being aware that this is what they needed the most. When we know we are not alone and we create places for connection with others, we are empowered in exciting and new ways. And, when we are empowered, we are ready for anything!

Vivian Maunakea, BOD (with permission from Rev. Diane Weible & Northern California Nevada Conference UCC blog)
It Only Takes A Spark

"It only takes a spark to get a fire going.
And soon all those around, Can warm up to its glowing
That’s how it is with God’s love,
Once you’ve experienced it
You spread His love to everyone, You want to pass it on."

"Pass It On" was a song we sung many years ago in the Singspiration time for our Sunday School. What reminded me of this song were the three visioning sessions for Imagine Kaumakapili: 2021; hopefully there will be more sessions to allow the process to be completed.

There were representatives from all boards and committees as well as the execs at the visioning sessions. As members of the Nomination Committee we were pleased to see the participants because it gave us hope that there would be good discussion on many topics but we were specifically looking for discussion on training and preparing people for membership and ways to grow the membership.

In the first session we explored how we envisioned our church to be in the future. We were encouraged to share any ideas that came to mind.

We ended the first session by identifying five strategies and ranked them in order of importance:
1) Pastoral and Servant Leadership (Equipping the Body of Christ); 2) Faith Formation and Education (Growing the Body of Christ); 3) Worship and Music Experience (Welcoming All and Glorifying God); 4) Membership Growth and Development (Nurturing the Body of Christ); and 5) Community Engagement and Mission (Serving Those in Need).

The strategies gave credence to the church’s Mission Statement, “Equipping the Body of Christ, Growing the Body of Christ, Welcoming All and Glorifying God, Nurturing the Body of Christ and Serving Those in Need”.

In session two we were asked to submit ideas for the top three strategies. We listed our ideas regarding programs, ministries, mission, studies, and special events that align with the goal of each strategic point. In session three we listed action steps that would further define how to accomplish the goals set for the top three strategies, prioritize the action steps, assign a start and end date, decide who would be responsible for carrying out the goals and determine what resources are needed.

We had some good discussion, shared ideas, and actually talked about goals and objectives. For the first time in a long time we were interacting with each other and having the kind of conversation that encourages us to look at the “total picture” of how church can and should be perceived. Church should be a kakou action and interaction of all ideas, where we all join together to help each other attain the goals that are set.

It is hoped that the conversation of planning for the completion of the three strategies remaining would be completed sooner rather then later. Having the vision in place, which would have been arrived at by the participation and input of the church, we would give the new Kahu a basis for his or her ministry with Kaumakapili. Rather then saying to the new Kahu we want to grow the membership, we want to train people to be servants in the church and the community, and we want to expand our service into the community – wouldn’t it be better for us as a congregation to say, we have done the work, we have a plan and you are invited to help us realize our plan.

The spark has been struck, we have met, we have discussed, we are anxious to complete the discussion in order to “Pass It On”.

Your Humble Sparkly Servants,
The Nomination Committee

Imagine 2021 Vision Planning Retreat

To know the significant areas (“strategic points”) in the life of our church that will determine our planning and visioning for the future.

The Five Strategic Points

Goals

The purpose of Pastoral and Servant Leadership is to shepherd our church community and God’s greater community to be one.

The purpose of Faith Formation and Education is a strong Bible-based, faith-centered educational program for all ages.

The purpose of Worship and Music Experience is to spiritually and emotionally connect people to God.

The purpose of Membership Growth and Development is to extend an extravagant aloha to all.

The purpose of Community Engagement and Mission is to share the gospel of Christ beyond our walls to the glory of God.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

2,017 YEARS LATER

ALOHA KAKOU AME KA HAU’OLI MAKAIKI HO’O KAUMAKAPILI OHANA

In Jesus story of the Good Samaritan, He commended the compassion by the stranger who stopped to help the wounded traveler. During His time with the disciples He encouraged them to “Go and do the same” Luke 10: 37, “I hele ‘oe a e ho’olihe me ia.”

In your hearing this scripture expressed by our Lord, what did you imagine it meant? Yes, it directed them to go out and practice their faith with all their heart and soul. This simple but profound statement was sort of a wake up call to those He left behind.

What was the link with today’s environment? Did you know the future work of our Halepule in God’s kingdom will progress and continue in this year of 2017 because YOU opened your pocket-books and gave unselfishly of whatever you could. This was revealed in our finance report for 2016 (see Andrew Poepoe’s article, Jan 2017) and shown in the survey of your time, treasure and talent-sharing commitments. Kuiaanahaa! Awesome!

As we look ahead to the coming year, latch onto something you can do …pick up your Smartphone and call someone needing a ride, donate food to the Food Bank, join a committee. You know what’s in your na‘au, your pu‘uwai!

Now let’s work together with lima aloha, loving hands to glorify Akua and spread the Gospel. Remember our Lord’s words, “What ever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40.

How it will please our Lord to know as a member of Christ’s kingdom, a child of God, you are continuing a legacy that goes back 2,017 years!

NEW ENVELOPES

There are new “My Offering” envelopes in the pews! Your Stewardship Committee wanted to get away from using the old “generic” envelopes, and instead provide both the visitor and the member with information choices which are more helpful.

Since the envelopes are our design, they can be changed when they are re-ordered. If anyone has any suggestions about the envelopes, please let us know (just write on the envelope and place it in the offering plate). Mahalo for your generous pledges, gifts, tithes, and faithful service to Kaumakapili.

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Sun., Feb. 19
Annual Meeting, 12n
OPUKAHA’IA SUNDAY
Ohana Gifts & Weight, 6pm
Kahikuonalani Spring ‘Aha Halawai
Office Closed- Presidents’ Day

MARCH

Wed., Mar. 1
Ash Wednesday Service, 7p
Lenten Season Begins
Office Closed-Prince Kuhio Day

Outreach Ministry Volunteer Schedule

February
7 Food Prep Day
Distribution
8 Food Prep Day
Distribution
21 Food Prep Day
Distribution

March
8 Food Prep Day
Distribution
21 Food Prep Day
Distribution

Kauloakapili Church
111 Ka‘uokalani Pl., Honolulu, HI 96817
808-536-9378 • info@kaumakapili.org • www.kaumakapili.org
Other ministers who came to love and participate in our worship services were, Rev. Richard Wong, a very wise man with a huge warm heart, Rev. David Twigg, our first “haole” minister, a very kind and sensitive man, Kahu William Kaina, a very gentle and soft spoken man with a good sense of humor, Kahu Kimo Mersberg a gentle giant with a wonderful melodice voice, Kahu David Kaupu a man full of wisdom, well-versed in our native tongue, Kahu Kalena Uka, who gave the final blessing of Ma‘ema’e Chapel as it was being demolished. We thank God for these faithful ministers who gave and shared their love, time and spiritual lessons.

Sunday School teachers from back in the day were, Mrs. Marion Waterhouse Wilcox, Aunty Abbie Lono, Aunty Madelyn Mahoe Vasconcellos and her daughters, Queenie, Stephanie and Patria, Aunty Harriet Napuunoa, Aunty Miriam Fernandez Tollefsen, Uncle Edward Fernandez, my mom, Carrie Keuka Fernandez and in the late 50’s and early 60s, Uncle David and Aunty Martha Maunakea, Uncle George and Aunty Ethel “Bunny” Ahana and eventually, my generation of Pamela Rodrigues, Thelma Rodrigues Silva and myself.

Between Aunty Martha Hohu and Rev. Keala, students from the classes were given opportunities and training in leadership for the Sunday services. Usually met with some apprehension in the beginning, the students soon became confident young men and women who were then able to pass on their knowledge and skills to other children.

The custodians during my lifetime were Papa and Tutu Mary Aki, Aunty Mary and Uncle William Fernandez Sr., Aunty Mary and Uncle William Rodrigues and their immediate family members who not only maintained a clean chapel but also a well-manicured cemetery. Kaumakapili Church is currently maintaining the Ma‘ema’e property.

It is my understanding that the property was originally owned by the Jud family. Although I am not sure of the succession of ownership, eventually, the property became the kuleana of Kaumakapili Church.

As the story is told, the church was used during the war days as a place where women would meet to make baby layette sets, bandages for the war effort and be the center of social activity. Kaumakapili Church is blessed to be a part of this church’s enduring story and impact.

(Author unknown, ‘Ma‘ema’e Chapel, to be continued March 2017 edition)