



# KA LEO O KEALOHA

( *The Voice of Love* )

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*“Nōlaila ho’i, o ka mea lohe i kēia mau ‘ōlelo a’u, a mala ho’i ia,  
E ho’ohālike iā ia me ke kanaka na’auao,  
nana i kākulu kona hale maluna o ka pōhaku.” [Mataio 7:24]*

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them to practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

[Matthew 7:24]

## Volume 14, Issue 4

### Banyan Tree Homage

During my first week in the church office, back in mid-February, things started off with a bang—literally. A huge section of the banyan tree located on the church mall came crashing down with a violent impact! Buddy and I were sitting in the church office when we heard the crash. Sterrene and Wendy witnessed the spectacular event from a window that left them shocked and awe. There was a lot of commotion. I knew something big had gone down (yes, pun intended). This was my initial welcome to Kaumakapili Church.



After consulting with an arborist, it was determined that the remaining portion of the banyan was too dangerous to remain standing and would need to be cut down. Therefore, during the early morning hours of Friday, March 17, 2017, church staff, members, volunteers, tree removal workers, and curious neighbors from Mayor Wright Housing all gathered to witness the decommissioning and blessing of the old banyan tree before it was cut down.

We see God in all of Creation, especially in nature. This majestic banyan tree was part of God’s creation. I would learn this banyan tree was on the “Exceptional Tree” list. It required special handling and was under the supervision of the City and County of Honolulu and a special arborist committee. Standing nearly one hundred feet tall, the banyan tree—with all its regal grandeur—was a familiar landmark in the urban landscape of the Kalihi-Palama neighborhood. This was an “exceptional tree” by any person’s standards. It was also a reminder of a bygone era of Hawaiian royalty. Though its lineage is not definitive, we do know the banyan sits on land once owned by Princess Ruth Ke’elikolani, godmother of Princess Ka’iulani, whose father, Archibald Cleghorn, planted the first banyan tree at Ainalahau in Waikiki.<sup>1</sup>

Kamalulaniokeone’ula is the name given to the area surrounding the banyan tree. Hau’oli Akaka, Cultural Specialist at Kamehameha Schools, shared with me its

translation: “heavenly protection of Keone’ula.”

Keone’ula is the name of this land on which the church currently sits. On a basic level, its name symbolizes the shelter and protection (malulani) that this banyan tree has provided to the birds nesting in its branches. It has provided protection for a mother hen who was raising its chicks. It provided a shady resting spot for those who were hot and weary. According to Uncle David Kaneao, the banyan tree also provided a never-ending source of yard work for volunteers. Volunteers would rake its fallen leaves and branches. But before they could pause to admire the fruits of their labor, the wind donated more leaves and branches to the ground. The cleanup never ended.

Keone’ula has a historic connection to Hawaiian royalty. The parents of Princess Bernice Pauahi gifted this land to the church. The banyan tree was located adjacent to Queen Lili’uokalani’s residence and served as a central place for political meetings following the overthrow.<sup>2</sup> Ke Akua’s blessing has provided protection over Keone’ula and Kaumakapili Church for generations.

Life is a series of constant changes. These changes create new chapters that shape and create new life. The cutting down of this banyan tree was a symbol of a transformational process, which can lead to new life and prosperity. It teaches us to look at our past and learn from it. The wisdom we gain shapes who we are today. Finally, with the Spirit of Living God to counsel us, it guides us as we move forward in fulfilling God’s mission for the church in this community and in the world. As we enter into Holy Week, God has given us the promise of new birth with the living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Mahalo, Ke Akua, for the beauty and protection of this truly exceptional tree, your wonderful creation.

Blessings,









Scott



<sup>1</sup>Ralph Thomas Kam, “The Legacy of ‘Ainalahau: The Genealogy of Ka’iulani’s Banyan,” *The Hawaiian Journal of History*, vol. 45 (2011) p. 58.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid, 59.

# ‘APELILA 2017 ACTIVITIES

Lāpule	Pō‘akahi	Pō‘alua	Pō‘akolu	Pō‘aha	Pō‘alima	Pō‘aono
<b>Hale Kamika</b> <b>Classrooms:</b> CLOSED for repairs  <i>Hale Aloha Outreach is open for Food Bank. The free store will be open the 3rd Friday of the month until further notice.</i>						1
<b>2</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 10-10:30a CWT 10:30a-12n Worship <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 9:00-10:00a Adult Bible Study 9:00am-10:00a Youth Group <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 9a-10a Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm) 10:30-11:30a Pokii Choir  Interim Team: Kenneth Makuakane, Papa Makua	3	<b>4</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 6:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 5:00p Adult Bible Study 6:00p Lenten Study <b>Ke'ena Ohina</b> 2-4p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm)  	<b>6</b> <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 3-5p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm)  	7	8
<b>9</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 10-10:30a CWT 10:30-12n Worship <b>Baptisms</b> <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 9:00-10:00a Adult Bible Study 9:00am-10:00a Youth Group <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 9a-10a Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm) 10:30-11:30a Pokii Choir 12n Council Mtg.  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  Interim Team: Kona Mann	10	<b>11</b> <b>Hale Aloha:</b> 7:30-9:30a Food Bank Prep <b>Sanctuary:</b> 6:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> <b>Hale Aloha:</b> 8-10a Food Bank <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 5:00p Adult Bible Study 6:00p Lenten Study <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 2-4p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm) 5-8p Halau  	<b>13</b> <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 3-5p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm)  	<b>14</b> OFFICE CLOSED, 12n Good Friday  <b>Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7pm</b>	15
<b>16</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 6a Sunrise Service 7a Ohana Breakfast 8:00-9:30a Easter Activities 9:45 -10:30a CWT Decorate the Cross 10:30a-12n Worship  <b>Aloha Sunday</b>  <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	17	<b>18</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 6:00p Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 5:00p Adult Bible Study <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 2-4p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm) 5-8p Halau  	<b>20</b> <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 3-5p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm)  	21	22
<b>23</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 10-10:30a CWT 10:30a-12n Worship (General Schedule)  Interim Team  <b>30</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 10-10:30a CWT 10:30a-12n Worship (General Schedule)  Interim Team: Manu Nae'ole	24	<b>25</b> <b>Sanctuary:</b> 6:00p Choir Rehearsal <b>Hale Aloha:</b> 7:30-9:30a Food Bank Prep	<b>26</b> <b>Hale Aloha:</b> 8-10a Food Bank <b>Auxiliary Hall:</b> 5:00p Adult Bible Study <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 2-4p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm) 5-8p Halau  	<b>27</b> <b>Ke'ena Ohina:</b> 3-5p Ukulele Class (See Matt Motas to confirm)  	28	29

## NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

### "Who Me, Sacrifice?"

In Matthew 10:19 we read our Savior's words, "Whoever finds their life will lose it, and who ever loses their life for my sake will find it."

This is an amazing message when most of us are keen to only look out for ourselves and those closest to us. But, consider this statement if you were asked will you "lose your life?" Think of it in terms of SACRIFICE. When we sacrifice, we put into practice Jesus's way of living. We no longer care only about our own needs, but desire to practice ALOHA KEKAHI I KE KAHI, love for one another.

Christ not only taught about sacrifice but He also lived it by giving His life for us. What a supreme example of unselfishness this served to be!

As we prepare for Easter let us reflect on His sacrifice that we might fully understand and be thankful and, in turn, practice in small or big ways what it means to sacrifice for others.

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Mahalo nui for your generous donations to our One Great Hour of Sharing Mission Offering on March 26th. You made a difference in someone's life. Strengthen the Church is our next special offering on June 4, 2017 and it helps to re-imagine and build the future of the UCC by supporting YOUTH MINISTRIES and YOUNG ADULT programs.

-M. P. Stewart-Vetekina

## Upcoming Events

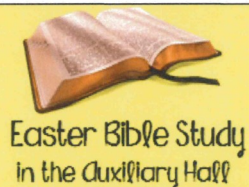
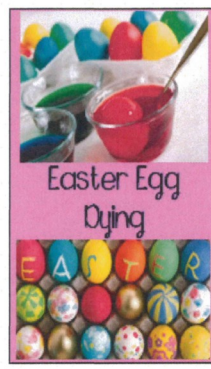
### **APRIL**

Wed.	Lenten Study, 6pm (until April 12th)
Fri., Apr. 14	Office Closed, 12n Good Friday Service, 7pm
Sun., Apr. 16	Easter Sunrise Service, 6am 'Ohana Breakfast & Activities Easter Service, 10:30am

### **MAY**

Sun., May 14	Mother's Day
Mon., May 29	Office Closed-Memorial Day

Join the Board of Education  
Easter Morning  
Sunday, April 16, 2017  
8:00 - 9:30am  
in Hale Kamika  
for some fun activities



9:45 - 10:30am  
in the church sanctuary  
for Singspiration and to decorate the cross



## The History Corner

— By Roberta Jahrling

### Kaumakapili Apana Churches

Thanks to Zena Kaehu we had a glimpse into Ma'ema'e Sunday School Sunday activities and events and people that made Ma'ema'e special. There are many more memorable moments that others could share of rushing from Kaumakapili Church to Ma'ema'e then off to Kamehameha Schools for the Sunday parade at Mawaena Field. Ma'ema'e was the training ground for a future piano and organ accompanist (Aunty Nani), and students participated in different parts of the Sunday program, reading the call to worship, reading the scripture, announcing the hymns and thereby building their self confidence to be able to participate in "big service" at Kaumakapili.

Ma'ema'e was one of three apana or branch churches for which Kaumakapili Church was responsible. We are familiar with Pauoa Chapel and Ma'ema'e Chapel but I discovered in reading the February 1909 copy of *The Friend*, the official newspaper of the Hawaii Evangelical Association (HEA), that there was another chapel.

Henry P. Judd was the Superintendent for the Sunday School Association and in his role as the Superintendent he would visit all the Sunday Schools on all the islands listening to and participating in hoikes and maybe even giving the message when asked. He gives detailed reports on the districts he visited and so I came across his report on Honolulu:

*"Among the "apana" chapels of the Kaumakapili Church is the Waikahalulu Chapel, that is mauka of School Street and near the Waikahalulu Falls of the Nuuanu stream. The bell of the little chapel calls people to the Sunday School service every Sunday afternoon. How many of those who hear the ringing of the bell know where it cometh or ever asked if they could be of any help to the little school?"*

The discovery of this third apana church can only affirm the dedication of the ministers and the HEA to continue to promote the education of the maka'ainana through the teaching of the scriptures and a Christian culture of service to others as well as

souls to join the church.

There is no evidence on when or why the Waikahalulu Chapel ceased to exist. But in 1904 there was an extensive road building program in Honolulu that included the extension of the roads from the center of Honolulu into Nuuanu and Pauoa. It could be that where the chapel stood the buildings in the area were condemned to allow the extension of the roads and that was the end of the Waikahalulu Chapel.

Whatever the fate of the chapel when it was active I would like to believe that there were many people from the area drawn into the activities and Christian fellowship offered at the chapel and that the members



would want to continue the fellowship with other Christians at Ma'ema'e chapel. The Waikahalulu Falls, for which the chapel was named, exists today and can be seen at Liliuokalani Botanical Gardens at 123 N Kuakini Street next to Kuakini Hospital. Queen Liliuokalani gifted the falls and the surrounding area to the public as a park. Perhaps if you were to visit the falls you could sit and reflect upon the area and what it must have looked like in 1904 and maybe see in your mind's eye a chapel on the makai side of School Street next to the bridge forging the Nuuanu stream.

Pauoa Valley is not far from the Waikahalulu Falls and the Pauoa Chapel would not be built for another 30 years or so. In the next article we will uncover some interesting facts about the chapel and if any of our readers have stories to share about the chapel the History Corner writers would like to hear about them.

Until next time..... this is Roberta Jahrling signing off.

### **Outreach Ministry**

#### **April**

11	Food Prep Day	7:30-9:00am
12	Distribution	7:30-10:00am
25	Food Prep Day	7:30-9:00am
26	Distribution	7:30-10:00am

#### **May**

9	Food Prep Day	7:30-9:00am
10	Distribution	7:30-10:00am
23	Food Prep Day	7:30-9:00am
24	Distribution	7:30-10:00am

## ***Church Leaders Event 2017***

Amanda Allison, Lorna Motas and Sybil Schoenstein attended the Church Leaders Event on February 25, 2017 at Central Union Church. This article shares the focus of the plenary sessions and two of the workshops that may be of interest and impact to the life of Kaumakapili Church.

Plenary Session I, led by Susan Mitchell and Maria Coyne, discussed ways to develop a strategic plan for re-imagining space for positive community impact and growth.

Plenary Session II, led by Pastor Eric Anderson discussed ways effective social media can promote events, reach young people through popular social media services and look at new ways to connect with today's evolving congregations.

### **Deploying Assets for Mission**

Susan Mitchell and Maria Coyne from the Church Building and Loan Fund conducted a rich and meaningful discussion on how to "deploy assets for mission".

While our church may not need monetary support from the Church Building and Loan Fund, we are actually "deploying assets for mission" using our own funds. The thoughts and ideas presented at this session causes us to pause and think about the very changes happening at our church ie, the renovation downstairs in Hale Kamika and the removal of the banyan tree. How do we re-purpose the classroom spaces and the area where the banyan tree once stood that will have a positive impact on our church and community?

Thoughts and questions from Susan and Maria-

- Whatever God has called us to do, he will empower us to get the job done.
- What are the TALENTS in our congregation? How do we best utilize these talents which are God's resources? When we use our resources, others will see God.
- We are often at a crossroad of Fear or Faith, and it's ok to be fearful but don't let fear paralyze you and you do nothing. Walk in faith that God will make all things possible however, there is no guarantee that the journey will be easy.
- How will /does our church impact the surrounding community socially, environmentally, economically and spiritually? Do we know the needs of the community?

- What do people see when they come to our church? If we want to attract families or youth, where is the space for youth and families? Is it visible?
- Does our space allow us to do the mission we are called to do?

Lastly, dream big, more than 5,10 and 15 years out. Have a vision, set up a strategic plan and be ready to implement.

### **Do a New Thing: Revitalization Tools & Stories**

Chris Davies, from New Beginnings Assessment Service in partnership with UCC, presented an informative workshop on providing insight for revitalization strategies to align with each church's mission, purpose and vision. It is important to enter into the realization of where you are now and where the church chooses to go in the future. Churches go through a life cycle: dream-relationship-program-organization-plateau-decline-rapid decline-flat line. This is normal. The transformation process: perceive reality-let go (of what's not working)-pause-prototype (what comes next). Assess, then hold house meetings in small group conversations, then make decisions on mission, not survival.

What to consider when making a decision:

- What is God calling us to do?
- What would it require us to give up?
- Are we maintenance oriented or gospel oriented?
- Example of what to consider
  - Shift of focus from inside to outside our congregation?
  - Reach a new population?
  - Leave a legacy?
  - Start a new congregation?

Between our evaluation as part of our Pastoral Search and our Strategic Vision Action Planning, Kaumakapili is currently engaged in a similar process which arose organically from our leadership and congregation.

§ § §

In addition, each attended other workshops:

Treasurers and Insurance Board, Biblical Inclusivity for LGBT, Social Media for Churches, Youth Ministry and Church Archives. Summaries, materials and handouts will be directed to appropriate church leaders. Handouts and attachments can also be found at:<http://www.hcucc.org/church-leaders-event-2017>

**The Value of “Pews to Service”  
for Kaumakapili Church**  
by Jo-An Goss

Since our church is in a process of seeking a new pastor, we have recently had Strategic Visioning Retreat sessions to help guide us. Pastor Randy Furushima has helped us develop discussion groups to work under two major areas: Pastoral & Servant Leadership and Faith Formation Education.

In carrying out the work of the Board of Deacons, we have endeavored to provide educational and spiritual benefits to all who are willing to answer the call to our Pew To Service program. As a church, the board believes that it is vital to have an informed and participating membership. One way of involving our members is by encouraging them to participate in the church service and social gatherings.

Although our Pews to Service program was implemented in 2010, it is a program that has its roots in the 1960's and specifically managed by a kupuna, Auntie Dorothy Chong.

According to Roberta Jahrling, there was a time when the youth of the church were expected to say "yes" when asked to read the scripture. She shared that "Auntie Dorothy would call and tell the parent, not the student, but the parent, that so and so had been selected to read the scripture, and the reading was in the mail. And, that was how we got the gentle message that we were to read the scripture on a particular Sunday morning!"

Roberta shared, "It was always wonderful to see students at the pulpit on a Sunday morning reading the scripture(s) and just having the chance to participate! Giving them more responsibility to participate in more than the reading of the scripture was good training in building their self-confidence and ability to feel like they were really making a contribution."

In 2010 the Board of Deacons had diminished from nine deacons during the 2007-09 years to only two: Hau'oli Akaka and myself.

Kahu Kamanu, Hau'oli, and I had lunch at Zippy's to discuss how we might handle all the areas of responsibilities. The night before our meeting I had an "aha moment." Although deacons had the responsibility for a number of areas, we didn't have to be the ones to DO the work. We could seek others in the congregation to fill the areas of responsibility. The question was: how did we get people to help do the work for us? Roger Ede provided a label for the idea. He mentioned

what Calvary by the Sea Church called their program of lay volunteers: ACTS. "A Commitment To Service." Members were asked to commit for a specific period of time (1 or 2 Sundays a month, 1 month, or 1 quarter etc.).

We decided on the label of "Pews to Service," for Kaumakapili, and we have continued with this program until today.

Recently I went through my Board files and saw our monthly lists of volunteers for our Pews to Service program. I was amazed how many members of our congregation had participated each month and have continued over the years as Pulpit Greeters, English and Hawaiian Scripture readers, Candle Lighters, and others to help with Offertory, and Communion.

Lorna Motas shared: "I love Pews to Service. Member involvement is so critical to the life of any church. Growing up and attending Kailua Christian Church, everyone participated in volunteering to read scripture, lead worship, be greeters, and collect lulu. Youth were always included in the responsibilities of service so we knew what to do if leaders were not available. Mentoring is so important to keep the church alive."

Zena Kaehu added: "Pews to Service is one of the greatest gifts one can give to our church and for the glory of Christ! At Ma'ema'e Chapel it was a genuine WIN when a child was called upon to be the leader of the day. We rotated the kuleana so that all children were given an opportunity to serve the Lord. I remember distinctly Kahu Sam Keala instructing me at a very young age, on the serving of the Communion elements, what it stood for, the etiquette in serving and the preparation and caring of the Communion-ware....priceless and meaningful. Confidence grew in leaps and bounds as our keiki learned about the order of service.

Kaumakapili offers the same opportunity to worshippers who want to learn and be a part of the worshipping experience. It is a learning ground for our members to gain knowledge of protocols and responsibilities of, in our case....more of the Board of Deacons. We can and have been asking for kōkua in other committees of our church's governance. We must continue to allow our church to be all-inclusive in its work and service to our Lord!

In closing, I like seeing and listening to different people...let's ask for more help from different folks!"

On behalf of the Board of Deacons, mahalo to all who have participated in the Pews to Service program. We look forward to a renewal of the spirit and ask for everyone's continued kōkua as we go forward together!





# Easter Services

Sunrise Service, 6:00am  
'Ohana Breakfast, 7:00am  
Family Activities, 8:00am  
Easter Service, 10:30am

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS AT THE CROSS

LENTEN STUDY

Wednesdays at 6pm  
MARCH 8th-APRIL 12th

# GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 14TH, 7PM

## Book-Dive

with the Board of Education



Saturday, April 29  
9:00am - 3:00pm

&

Sunday, April 30  
12:00pm - 3:00pm

Help us go through boxes of books and determine what we will keep for our Annie Kanehele Resource Center or donate to other Hawaiian churches.

Lunch will be provided for all helping hands.



## **APRIL**

April 2, 2017

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

*Psalms 130*

*Romans 8:6-11*

*John 11:1-45*

April 9, 2017

*Matthew 21:1-11*

*Psalms 11:1-2, 19-29*

*Isaiah 50:4-9<sup>a</sup>*

*Psalms 31:9-16*

*Phil 2:5-11*

*Matthew 26:14-27:66*

April 16, 2017

*Acts 10:34-43*

*Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24*

*Colossians 3:1-4*

*John 20:1-18*

April 23, 2017

*Acts 2:14a, 22-32*

*Psalms 16*

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

*John 20:19-31*

April 30, 2017

*Acts 2:14a, 36-41*

*Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19*

*1 Peter 1:17-23*

*Luke 24:13-35*

## **Birthdays**

### **APRIL**

April 1	Brian Muratsuka
April 4	Masami Takeuchi
April 6	Mark Patterson
April 9	Janice Vorfeld
April 12	Martha Lakalo
April 13	Kaiakahinali'i Kaopua-Canonigo
April 15	Francine Aarona
	Thurman Howard
April 18	Christina Rudolph
April 19	Lloyd Malani
April 20	Lilinoe Helsham
April 22	Swade Itula
April 23	Jadd Cortez
April 25	Kahealani Itula
April 26	Madison Maeshiro
April 26	Kamalulani Wong
April 27	Lucy Ann Kihewa
April 28	Jaya Poepoe
April 30	Peteru Green
	Ikaika Kihewa

*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.*



## **April Flowers**

April 2:	Aloha Committee
April 9:	In Memory of Bobby Pelangka
April 16:	Easter Lily Arrangement
April 23:	Hau'oli La Hanau~ Ronnie Fernandez
April 30:	Happy Birthday~ Kamaiu Wong

## **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](http://kaumakapili.org). You can unsubscribe at anytime at [kaumakapili@yahoo.com](mailto:kaumakapili@yahoo.com).*