Be a Channel of God’s Aloha

BY KAHU DOUG WOOTEN

I hope you share my excitement about the ministries taking place at Kaumakapili Church. Our youth program is growing, our Sunday School/Christian Education Ministry is using every available resource to reach our Ohana. Our Outreach Ministry has been invigorated by an influx of new participants. Our Music Ministry has filled the sanctuary with songs of adoration.

There are many reasons for these strong signs of life in our congregation, but one significant factor has been the commitment we make each year to help fund these ministries. Money itself is a lifelong thing; however, when put to use by dedicated Christian groups, great things can happen, as we have seen.

In faith, there are yet more ways our congregation can be a channel of God’s aloha. Our Finance Ministry has prayerfully made another commitment for the coming year. The budget is the fruit of the committee’s study of our ongoing programs and new ministry possibilities. Meeting this budget will be a challenging stretch for us; however, it is one that is within our faith reach!

Please begin praying about our budget now. And let us each, in light of God’s blessings, make a personal faith commitment as we consider what our generosity will be to the Church in the year to come!

Please accept my sincere Mahalo for your faithfulness.

Me ka aloha pomehana,

Kahu Wooten
Kahu Appreciation Sunday

BY LORNA MOTAS

October was Pastor Appreciation Month. On October 21, the church showed its appreciation for Kahu Weston and surprised him with a short ceremony. The Sunday School Children started with presenting paper hand leis, representing their laying of hands on Kahu to bless him.

During Kahu Weston’s Installation service on October 6, Interim Conference Minister, Rev. Gabrielle Chavez, from the HCUC office gave separate Charges to the Kahu and to the Congregation. Those Charges were recited again during the Appreciation ceremony. Below is the Charge to the Church:

“My Charge to this congregation therefore is essentially the same Great Commandments to love:  
- Love yourselves as a congregation. Treasure and take care of each other and the best gifts of your traditions.
- Love your pastor more. Study what is necessary and commit to help your joint ministry succeed.
- Love God the most, for surely at the end of the day, as at its beginning, no Christian congregation may make an idol of itself or its pastor, but exists solely for the purposes of God as revealed in Christ.”

Kaumakapili Church

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www.kaumakapili.org

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm
Kahu Weston’s Office Hours
Monday - Thursday, 8am - 4pm

Kaumakapili Church

Happy Birthday

Daniel Medeiros 11/1
Kimberley Murataoka 11/1
Linda Mills 11/2
Samuel Kihewa 11/5
Francis Malani 11/5
Tina Maunakea 11/5
Bernadette Park 11/5
Aaron Kaneao 11/6
Kau Aquino 11/9
David Kaupu 11/10
Vivian Maunakea 11/11
Davilynne Jardoc 11/12
Jarin Cortez 11/17
Libau Stende 11/20
Marla Medeiros 11/22
Debra Chun 11/29
Kekela Kihewa 11/30

Food Bank & Free Store

November
7 Food Bank 8am - 10am
8 Homeless Food Bank & Free Store 8am - 10am
9 Free Store
28 Food Bank 8am - 10am
29 Homeless Food Bank & Free Store 8am - 10am
30 Free Store

Kaua‘i Missionary Church, thankful for the gifts received from God, founded in 1838 for the makaainana, the common folk, rich in Hawaiian tradition and diverse backgrounds, founded in covenant with all in the United Church of Christ, led by the Spirit, declares its mission to glorify God by hearing the works 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

www.facebook.com/kaumakapili.org

Uncle David Kana‘a’s helpers around campus

Be on the Look-out:
Strategic Action Plan

11/4 Eric and Christina Rudolph
11/11 Hawai‘i La Hanau - Vivian Maunakea
11/18 In Memoriam - Mel Spencer Ohana
12/5 In Memory of Rosalind Kamakau
A Message from Buildings and Grounds

Usually a Buildings and Grounds report contains things like plumbing repairs, roof repairs, kitchen repairs, etc. Not this one.

At their October meeting, the Church Council approved placing a few simple Christmas decorations at the entrance to the Sanctuary – just to let people passing by know that we celebrate Christmas! A picture of the front of the Church was circulated to Council members, showing white lights above the portals, with a wreath in the center, over the middle archway.

Some might be interested to learn about the history and meaning of Advent and Christmas wreaths. The following is from an internet site:

“The Advent wreath was & First used by Lutherans in Germany in the 16th century, and it was a Lutheran priest who used a wreath made from a cart wheel to educate children about the meaning and purpose of Christmas, as well as to help them count its approach, thus giving rise to the modern version of the Advent wreath.

For every Sunday of Advent, starting with the fourth Sunday before Christmas, he would put a white candle in the wreath and for every day in between he would use a red candle. The use of the Advent wreath has since spread from the Lutheran Church to many Christian denominations. Advent and Christmas wreaths are constructed of evergreens (now plastic) to represent everlasting life brought through Jesus and the circular shape of the wreath represents God with no beginning and no end. Advent and Christmas wreaths are now a popular symbol in preparation for and to celebrate the coming of Christ, with the former being used to mark the beginning of the Christian Church’s liturgical year and both serving as decor during Advent and Christmas festivities. While Advent wreaths are erected on stands or placed on tables, Christmas wreaths are often hung on doors or walls.”

Merry Christmas!

From the Buildings and Grounds Ministry

Remember to turn in your cards...

FOR CHURCH RECORDS

Name
Address
City
State
Zip Code
Phone
Envelope #

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Date
Name
For each

plan to give $_________ each

weekly

monthly

beginning

end

Beginning

Total

I understand that the commitment can be adjusted at any time by giving refusing to the appropriate church office.

I would like to talk with someone about this program or about my will or estate.

Done

October Council Meeting Highlights

BY LORNA MOTA

Kahu Wooten’s Report

• We are doing more to support the Outreach Ministry with food on Free Shower days. Anne Leake wants to provide community resources to help the homeless.

• A Neighborhood Board Meeting at Kaumakapili Church on October 18 resulted in a huge draw from neighbors concerned with the high crime in the Kalihi Palama neighborhood. HPD commanders, Senator Karl Rhoads, Representative Dennis Arakawa and Councilman Joey Manahan attended and listened to community members’ concerns. The next meeting is set for December, date to be announced.

• Kahu will be transferring his membership from his previous church to Kaumakapili Church.

Presidents’ Report

• Mahalo to everyone for their kokua and participation in Kahu Dr. Doug Wooten’s Installation service.

• The Reformed Congregational Church of Honolulu (Marshall) held their first service on October 14. They are extremely grateful for the opportunity to worship at Kaumakapili Church. They gifted us with fans and a monetary donation. They invite all to attend their service.

• A weekly email blast from Kahu Wooten and Lorna will communicate the latest events or happenings at the church.

Vice President’s Report

• Negotiations are ongoing between Kaumakapili Church and Koi Koi Productions Wedding Company.

• Phil Regier wants to create and expand video capabilities to post and live stream our service as a way to give Kaumakapili greater exposure.

Secretary’s Report

• Credit cards for authorized staff users will soon be ready.

Highlights continued on page 8
Kalihi-Palama Health Center Gala
“Emerging Future”

On September 27, the Kalihi-Palama Health Center honored two people and an organization for their outstanding contribution to the community and their support in helping to establish the Kalihi-Palama Health Center.

Kaukapili Church’s beloved Uncle Henry Kaapuni Aaron was one of the founders of Kalihi-Palama Health Center. “Over 40 years ago, he had the vision to consider the whole person; to go beyond primary health care and include all other needs that play a role in the health and general well-being of the entire community.”

His two sons, Henry Aaron Jr. and Jimmy Aaron along with their families were present to accept the award.

Other recipients were Pua Puaikapu (“Papa Mac”) and The Hawaii Dental Association. Anne Leslie was mentioned as being instrumental in accompanying Pua Puaikapu on the Hokulua voyage as his nurse.

Kaumakapili Strummers

Uncle Wainihi Hoolei, played the opening theme of “Hawaii Five-O.” The Kaumakapili Strummers not only perform together, but perform together to bring musical joy to Kaumakapili’s special occasions. See Uncle Wainihi at www.honolulu.gov.
Christian Education Builds Faithful Followers of Jesus... One Step at a Time

BY MANU NAOLE

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise Ye the Lord.”
-Psalms 150:6

This season of ministry has been a good season for Kaumakapili Christian Education. There is much praise to send to God for the work being done through education. Our children’s class and youth started a study of the Bible in a Year in September. Our Tuesday and Sunday adult classes have been rigorously studying Revelation, and they will move to a study of the Trinity. We are thankful for the teachers and participants who help to keep the ministry going.

A few months ago, I was listening to a podcast called Freakonomics. This particular podcast dealt with the subject of incrementalism. One way to describe incrementalism is the practice of doing something small over and over again, but this small something repeated over and over, eventually makes a large impact. This idea is then contrasted with doing one big event, once, to make a great impact.

The podcast made me think about the way I approach my life with God. In seminary, one of my professors spoke about that, for most people, the discipleship process happens more like the disciples in the Gospel of Mark, rather than like Paul on the road to Damascus. Most of us may be able to trace the single event when we decided to follow God completely, but following God, being discipled, is a change that happens over time as we continue to grow and learn. In the Bible, Paul’s story seems more like a single event and instant conversion.

The disciples give in to fear when the windstorm whips up as they cross the Sea of Galilee (Mark 4:38). The disciples are bewildered when, while in a large crowd, Jesus asks

who has touched him?” (Mark 5:31) The disciples lack understanding when they ask Jesus if they should go and buy food for the thousands who have gathered around them (Mark 6:37). The disciples are fearful when they see Jesus walking on the water and heading toward them. Even those considered closest to Jesus went through a process of growth.

A few months ago, while getting my old truck tuned, the tow truck driver told me a funny observation he had. While driving, we passed by a work site for the new rail project. The driver remarked that every time he drives by, he just sees workers standing around, but somehow the rail keeps being built. The little details of building can be unforeseen to the average person, but the end product of constant work has an impact.

The disciples, those closest to Jesus, struggled to grasp what it meant to be a follower of Jesus. It was a work in progress that they would steadily build to the point where, more than 2,000 years later, the community they started lives on in the life of the church. Here at Kaumakapili, we give thanks to God — in class, in small weekly steps — that we will learn and grow in the Lord while we pray that God will continue to shape and mold us for great impacts to come.

We pray that the faithful, steady, and incremental work of the ministry of education continues to build people up to make a greater impact for God upon our communities and the world at large.

Celebrating 180 Years - Sixth Article in a Series

BY SYBIL SCHOFENSTEIN

Rev. William Kaina and his wife Sandy are no strangers to the Hawaiian church community. Rev. Kaina prior coming to Kaumakapili served as Papa Maka at the Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ. So, it was indeed a blessing when, accepting the call to Kaumakapili, Kaha was installed as its pastor on January 27, 1980.

Kaha Kaina came at a time when Kaumakapili was a church thriving in many ways, from the growth of its membership to the various community projects and church activities. He continued to build and uplift the church to further heights.

Several important events that occurred in the church was nurtured by Kaha Kaina during his six prosperous years at Kaumakapili.

1. The old parish hall was demolished, and a new building complex, Hale Kamaka, was dedicated on June 28, 1981. For this event, “Ka Moe Uhanu Ho’oko’oko’i” (A Dream Fulfilled) was written by then director Martha Paepoe Hokul English lyrics by Kaha Kaina. He collaborated with kupuna Gladys Szekely and Annie Kanahale to translate the lyrics into Hawaiian.

2. Kaha Kaina introduced the Discipleship Ministry Church’s Alive, a 3-year program from 1983 to 1986 as leadership training for those called to Discipleship. Under the leadership of Kaha Kaina and Kaha Richard Kamana, two Discipleship Classes led by Hanik Kajip and Robert Nauue, and a Growth Group led by Peter Keenola formed the nucleus of the program with over 25 participants.

3. Rev. Richard Kamana served as Associate Pastor under the guidance and mentorship of Kaha Kaina. Kaha Kamana also served in dual capacity to shepherd Ha‘u‘ula Congregational Church.

4. The Rev. David Twigg and his wife Leofol and their two children became a very integral and active part of the Kaumakapili ohana. Kaha Twigg continued to build on the leadership of previous kaha and with the lay leadership. He also introduced some innovative ideas for worship that included a Seder Upper and the Good Friday dramatic presentation. Kaha Twigg actively participated in community outreach, serving on the advisory committee of Queen Lilianu’s Trust Children’s Center, serving on the board of the Kalihi Palama Clinic and participated in the Pauahi Elderly Project Kupuna Hale. He also wrote a paper “Vision of Evangelism” for the Hawai’i Conference of the United Church of Christ.

1988 was the year Kaumakapili celebrated its Sesquicentennial adopting the theme “Nakula I Ka Eea‘neholo” (Proclaiming the Gospel). Kaha Twigg, working with the church’s leadership, filled the year with activities that will be long remembered. Special events for the Sesquicentennial included a parade from Smith Street to Kalihi Palama, followed by an annual dinner, a special kau‘i in April, a play by Rev. Richard Wong, “Testing of the Hawai’i Conference Aha Pa‘a’aina and the Fall Kokopani.

A special song, “Na Maka‘aihui Nai?” (The Many Years) by Momi Matumaka, choral arrangement by Randle Fong and Hawaiian translation by Gladys Szekely was written for the 150th birthday, celebrated on June 18, 1988.

In 1989, Kaumakapili had a very active youth group. Both of Kaha’s children were members of this group. Their activities included Bible studies, a volleyball team, service projects, social activities such as a Hallowen Dance and a Christmas party, and participated in the Aha Opihi in Waimau, Kauai.

In 1990, Kaumakapili retired its debt for Hale Kamaka with the burning of its mortgage on January 28, 1990.

The year 1991 marked several key events. The church approved the Japanese Wedding Ministry, Hale Ho‘o‘o Hau, the community health clinic, which started at Kaumakapili, was beginning to outgrow its space and began preparations to move of campus at which time it became known as the Kalihi Palama Health Clinic. Preliminary work began for the Sanctuary Restoration Project which took over 10 years to come to fruition.

Kaha Twigg with the Executive Committee created the Vision and Mission Statements as we know today. In his final Annual Report titled “Kaumakapili Church’s Present and Future,” Kaha Twigg presented a comprehensive review of his years at Kaumakapili and a perspective of the Mission Statement.