



THE CONNECTION

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Waimea United Church of Christ

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In recent months it seems that the Lord has made divine appointments for me with young couples that have heard a call to come to Kauai to seek a ministry. On four different occasions I have been privileged to witness the stories of men and women who have decided relatively early in their lives that they want to commit their days to what really matters to them, that is the Lord's work.

These young couples have come to Kauai not knowing how they are going to earn their keep while here. They have come by faith and hope that their material needs will be met. Their lives remind me of the story of the start of our own church. Two couples came as missionaries to Waimea in 1820. They had spent nine months under sail around the cape of South America to get here from New England. They did not know what would be awaiting them, how they would survive, if they would ever see their homes in New England again. They came by faith.

When they arrived in Waimea, there was no church waiting for them to help them get started. There were no homes for them. They waded off the ship with what they could carry and their faith.

1820 was before the age of telephone and telegraph, or electricity for that matter, and even before the age of the steam locomotive! The United States was less than fifty years old. My forbear, John Quincy Adams, was just elected Vice President with Monroe. Slavery was still legal. Edgar Allen Poe was a schoolboy, and Mark Twain was not even born yet. Napoleon Bonaparte was still alive. King George IV and Queen Victoria ruled the British

Empire. King Kamehameha was still plotting how he was going to take over the island of Kauai.

Even before the missionaries came to Kauai, however, there were those who came to New England from Europe by faith. They came in 1620 on the Mayflower in order to worship God freely. And, should we forget about how the faith was carried by the early saints out of the Holy Land to Rome, from Rome throughout Europe, and then around the world? The Apostle Paul traveled the known world in his day being sustained by his faith and his tent-making skills while being imprisoned, shipwrecked, and at times deathly ill.

Finally we come to our Lord Jesus Christ himself who left his home to walk the length of the Holy Land in order to share the message of faith in the good news of salvation. That message was carried forth by his disciples as they went out by twos with nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

Collectively this faith journey has brought us over 2,000 years closer to the Day of the Lord. The faith is still calling out to us to make a commitment to offer ourselves in the service to the Lord. Hear the call. Live the faith.

Aloha ke Akua, Pastor Olaf

The traditional forty days in Lent are marked by fasting, both from foods and festivities, and by other acts of penance. The three traditional practices to be taken up with renewed focus during Lent are prayer (an act for God), fasting (an act for the self), and almsgiving (an act for the neighbor).

**Scripture & Sermon Titles
March 2010**

March 7th
Matthew 27:1-14
"Strength in Silence"
March 14th
Matthew 26:36-49
"Judas"
March 21st
Matthew 26:1-13
"Christ, the Anointed"
March 28th
Matthew 21:1-13
"Lofty Goals"
April 4th **EASTER**
Matthew 28:1-10
"To Live Again"

The Tuesday morning Bible Study Group meets in Baird Hall at 9 a.m. This group studies the upcoming Sunday's scripture and sermon topic and gives input for the sermon. All are welcome to share in the lively discussion and prayer.



EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Evening Bible Study and fellowship meets every 2nd and 4th Sundays at 6 pm. We are studying the Book of Revelation. Listen to announcements for the location each time.

CALLING ALL BOOK READERS!

The Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 21st, 3 pm at the parsonage. We will discuss the book *Kiwis Might Fly* by Polly Evans.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

The West Kauai Ministers' Association is hosting the annual Lenten series with a service every Thursday evening, 7 pm, at different locations, with preaching by WKMA pastors.

Mar. 4 - Hanapepe Salvation Army – Pastor Rachel Schwab
Mar. 11- Hanapepe UCC – Pastor Manny Predas
Mar. 18- Kalaheo Missionary-Matt Metzger
Mar. 25- "The Shadow of the Cross" Cantata at the Waimea United Church of Christ
Mar. 31- **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
Services at individual churches



AN EVENING WITH TONY ROBINSON

Rev. Tony Robinson (noted author, teacher and church consultant) is scheduled to speak at the March 23rd Kauai Association Meeting. Rev. Robinson is the president of Congregational Leadership Northwest and has written nine books, the most recent being *Changing the Conversation: A Third Way for Congregations*.

Tuesday, March 23rd, 6:30 pm
Lihue Christian Church

We hope to see you all there at this church-building event! For more information on Rev. Robinson, you may click on www.anthonyrobinson.com

There will be a special congregational meeting on Sunday, March 7th, immediately following the morning worship service. This meeting will be to vote on nominees to vacant positions on the church council, which were not filled at the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 31st.

Elected leaders are necessary for the life of the organization and the church needs to show its support for those who have agreed to serve in leadership. In other words, **YOUR VOTE AS CHURCH MEMBER MATTERS**, and is needed in order for the church to have organizational status and a governing body. While ultimately we answer to God in all things, we still have to abide by the secular requirements of our institution. If you are unable to be present at the March 7th meeting, please call the church at 338-9962 and request a proxy vote form, so that your vote may still be counted.

As some of you may have already read, this article was submitted by Pastor Olaf to the Garden Island newspaper Friday's section on Religion a few weeks ago:

The following was inspired by my dog Niko and dedicated to all of God's creatures.

"Why do ministers wear collars?" the child asked.

I responded, "I stand at the gate waiting for my Master. I long for Him. I watch and listen for any sign of His return. He is the One who picked me up and carried me when I was born. He is the One who feeds me and cares for me still. My bowl is always overfilled. He is the One who walks beside me and leads me home. He pulls me back when I stray. He sets me free to be myself, yet I come back to Him always for my daily portion. I cringe and cower without His companionship. He is my Master. He commands my life."

"Is that why you pass doggie bowls around the church on Sunday morning?"

DO WE KNOW YOUR NAME?

That's what visitors and returnees ask. To help our visitors know who we are, we have started a "Church Ohana" board in the Narthex. If your picture is not up yet, please bring one or ask Sally Molander to take one of you. We would like to get as many faces up there as possible.

SPRING 'AHA MOKUPUNI FRIDAY, MAY 14-SATURDAY, MAY 15 HANAPEPE HAWAIIAN CHURCH

THEME: "KULEANA"

The gathering will begin with a Supper at 5 pm on Friday, after which will be the Aha Mele/Hoike. On Saturday, the Mokupuni will start at 7:30 am with breakfast, followed by the Annual Business Meeting, and then the presentation by Rev. Jim Fung on the theme. This will be followed by a workshop, and the day will conclude with the installation of newly elected Association officers, and Dinner. Please plan to attend the event if you are able.

The Church's Ministries

Food Pantry:

Packing- Tuesday, Mar. 23rd

Distribution- Wed. Mar. 24th

Rummage Sale: Saturday,
Mar. 13th, 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Quilting Group:

Sunday, March 7th

Church Council:

Sunday, March 14th

March Lay Reader:

Teri Sakai

March Deacon:

David Somers

Our Prayers

For the Aguilar family (loss of Priscilla's father), Yuki Okino, Lynn (Susie Somers' sister), Robbie (Nora's son-in-law), Marina Galiza, Ruth Cassel, Gladys Okada, Catherine Wilson, Nancy Jones, the Chronister family, Jane Matsukawa, Gayle Mizukami, Sue Metivier, Jim Kimoto, Nelson Keller, Elmo Douglass, Frank Watanabe, the youth in Waimea High School, Nora Vidinha, Loddy, Michael, Lance; Michael Nizo, Veronica Botelho, Sosei Chinen, Selden Burtch, Verna Kauahi, Glenn Kagawa, Desiree Kamai-Santos, the Lanai Committee and project, our local, state and national leaders and our troops overseas.

Written by 5th Graders:

☺ "God is like DIAL

SOAP: Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?"

☺ "God is like

HALLMARK CARDS: He cares enough to send the very best."

SPECIAL MOVIE AFTERNOON

SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH

11:30 A.M.

BAIRD HALL

Featuring the Movie
"FACING THE GIANTS"

This movie is about a football coach whose life is falling apart and whose High School football team is on a losing streak. The coach and team start to focus on God and submit to God's Will and things turn around. It is an inspiring movie about faith, setting our priorities right, and giving praise to God in all things.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



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