

The Breadfruit

Lihue Christian Church
www.lihuechristianchurch.org
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Next Breadfruit Deadline: September 15

September Calendar

Worship services are held every Sunday in the Lihue Christian Church sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. Many gather for breakfast on the lanai beginning at 8:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to fellowship together.

September 1 Communion Sunday
Donations of nonperishable food, towels and hygiene supplies may be dropped off in the boxes at the entry.

September 10 Introductory Session on Centering Prayer

September 15 Lihue Christian Church Annual Picnic at Lydgate Park



Important Announcement:
Change Is Coming--The Breadfruit
Noreen Tavares

In keeping up with the technological age and to reduce postal costs, *The Breadfruit*, Lihue Christian Church's monthly newsletter will be placed on the LCC's website:

www.lihuechristianchurch.org

To read the monthly newsletter, readers should use the above link and enter the church's website. Then, click on "The Breadfruit" at the top of the page. This should allow you to read the newsletter.

If you do not have access to the internet or prefer to receive *The Breadfruit* in the mail, please call Karen Nakamura at the church office, (808) 245-2348 and let her know your preference.

Pastor's Message

The Sanctuary and The Flag

Recently I was asked what I thought of having the US flag permanently displayed in a church sanctuary? My gut reaction was an immediate NOPE! Then I was asked "why not?" So here are my thoughts on this issue.

First, I have no problem with flying the US flag. Keith and I fly one on our house in North Carolina. And I have no problem displaying the US flag (or other country's flags) in the sanctuary on special occasions such as the Scouts awards program or a program honoring our Veterans. My problem comes about when Christians confuse Christianity with patriotism or Christian nationalism.

Patriotism is basically love of a specific country. For most of us, this is the United States of America. Patriotism is also being thankful for the blessings we have living in this country. And it is also realizing and living up to our responsibility to be good citizens and to do the best for the country as a whole. In a 2021 article for Christianity Today, Paul D. Miller* defined Christian nationalism as "the belief that the American nation is defined by Christianity, and that the government should take active steps to keep it that way. Popularly, Christian nationalists assert that America is and must remain a "Christian nation."
(<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/february-web-only/what-is-christian-nationalism.html>).

As Christians, we owe our love and worship to God first, not to a country or a flag. That God, our God, is not the God of only one culture, or one country, or one people. When we gather to worship, we are gathering with millions of Christians around the world from every race, nation, and tongue. The US is no more special to God than any other country. God loves us all the same.

When we enter the sanctuary, one of the first things we see is the cross. The other symbols we see, the candles, the flowers, the Bible on the altar, the pulpit, lectern and baptismal font, are all reminders of the God we worship. They all point to God in some way. That's not so with a flag.

And finally, being a patriot does not make one a Christian. And being a Christian does not require that one be a patriot. Being a Christian requires loving God with all your heart, soul, and mind and loving your neighbor as yourself. (Matt. 22:37-40)

Blessings,
Pastor Cheri

**Paul D. Miller is an American academic, writer and former White House staffer for Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. He is a professor in the Practice of International Affairs at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.*

‘Ae Kamali`i Preschool

Pam and Penni, Co-Directors

Hooray, it's a brand-new SCHOOL YEAR! We held our Parent Orientation to go over our school policies and to answer questions from our families and completed our two-day Parent/Child Classroom Orientation. On both days, the Parent/Child orientation began at 8 a.m. and ended at 11 a.m.

Each child, accompanied by an adult, spent a fun filled morning visiting the new classroom and practicing our daily school routine. Each classroom provides an indoor/outdoor learning environment using outdoor partitions to create additional open-air space on our lanai and other shaded areas for more fun, learning centers. The children ate breakfast, played on the playground, and enjoyed some fun activities at class time

The children had a great time! We look forward to a wonderful 2024-2025 school year with our new and returning ‘Ae Kamali`i friends.



Parents look-on as the children practice our “family style” breakfast routine

Kids Klub

Joan Fujimura

From August through the remainder of the year, Kid's Klub is embarking on a new adventure with the hope of sustaining and growing Kid's Klub while also building relationships within our church family and our community. It's a new and exciting time and we hope everyone will help to make this happen.



Each of us have a gift, a passion, a hobby, a talent, a favorite pastime, or a special skill. It may be a craft, a special dish or recipe, or a game. Whatever your gift is, you are invited to share it with Kids Klub. The goal is to form church family relationships, have fun and learn something new. As part of this relationship building journey, Kid's Klub went on an overnight outdoor retreat to UCC's Waineka Cabin in Kokee on the first weekend in August. And, Yes! we got to know each other a little better while enjoying and exploring the outdoors! Uncle Aaron, Atlas's dad, shared walkie talkies and started a mini fire pit which was perfect for toasting marshmallows to make s'mores. Both were a big hit! We also decorated luminaria bags for Relay for Life and watched the movie "Ratatouille."

The following Sunday, the Miyakes and Munars, now affectionately called Uncle Roy and Aunty Barbara, and Uncle Rodney and Aunty Deb, gave the kids an introduction to playing pickleball. Judging by the positive feedback, we look forward to a repeat performance in the months ahead.



Kids Klub continued...

Another change to Kids Klub is the new start time: 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. We hope both parents and kids will stay to worship together at 9:30 a.m. Each week, Pastor Cheri will shed light on or share a fun fact about Sunday service that will confirm what you thought you knew or challenge you to wonder and provide a few "ah-hahs".

Please contact Rachel Furutani (808-652-0166) if you need more information, have questions or are willing to help us grow as a church family.

Save the Date

Pet Blessing, Sunday, October 13

In memory of St. Francis of Assisi, Pastor Cheri will bless our beloved pets during worship on Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024. Feel free to bring your "well-behaved" pet with you to worship. We will have treats for pets and humans after worship. If you are unable to bring your pet, bring a picture of him or her so we can include them in the blessing.

"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

— Francis Of Assisi



Welcome, Keeley Beth!

Ben and Katie Kirschner and big brother Jackson welcomed a new member to their family:

Keeley Beth
Born: July 22, 2024
Weight: 9 lbs. 6 oz.
Length: 21 inches

Blessings to the Kirschner family!

You are all welcome and invited to the

**Lihue Christian Church
Worship & Picnic in the
Park**



Sunday, September 15, 2024
9:30 a.m.

Lydgate Park Pavilion

Cost: \$7.00 for ages 12 and over

Bring a dessert or side dish of your choice (salad or pupu)
Grilled hot dogs and hamburgers provided

Sign-up sheet in the back of church or call Joan Fujimura (808-639-4833)



Dear Lord, Hear Our Prayers For.....

Friends in Care Facilities:

Ailene Beady, Pacita Jimenez, and John Senda

Needing Prayer: John Arzadon, Margaret Chow, Rev. Richard Chun, Jean Hamura, Sonya Kobayashi, Chanelle Quinones, JoAnn Rapozo, Alice Shigeta, Russell Shimazu, Robert Tamura

The Family of Dora Kurasaki

September 18, 1926 — May 17, 2024

Dora Kurasaki, 97, died peacefully with her family at her side in Los Altos, California. Mrs. Kurasaki was one of thirteen children born to Kanezo and Tsuru Uyematsu in Lihu'e, Hawai'i. She is survived by sons Seth (Margaret), Howard, grandson Richard, sisters-in-law Sueko Galariada, Asako Murayama, many nieces and nephews.

Centering Prayer Group

Alicia Corbett

Phyllis Meighen welcomes interested persons to a weekly Centering Prayer group, via ZOOM, beginning September 10, 2024. The group will meet each Tuesday from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Centering prayer is a simple and accessible method of silent prayer that prepares one to experience God's presence and action within us. Through a regular practice of centering prayer, we nurture the incarnation of Christ in all aspects of our daily living and are reminded of God's constant presence. Beginners and advanced practitioners are welcome!

Participants are encouraged to develop a daily practice of centering prayer. Beginning September 17, the standard format for each session will be:

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 8:00-8:05 | Check-in |
| 8:05-8:25 | Centering prayer |
| 8:25-8:50 | Book reading and reflection |
| 8:50-9:00 | Intercessory Prayer |

We will read and reflect on: *Living Buddha, Living Christ* by Thich Nhat Hanh. Please contact Phyllis at phyllismeighen@gmail.com for more information and to sign up.

Bound In Harmony

Talita Arnold,

Senior Minister of the United Church of Santa Fe (UCC), Santa Fe, New Mexico.

September 14, 2023

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. - Colossians 3:14 (NRSV)

Once a month every summer, the church I serve offers a "drop-in choir." People come early to rehearse a simple anthem, then sing in the service. It's a great way to include visitors and others who love to sing but can't make a weekly choir commitment the rest of the year.

I appreciate our Director of Music Bradley Ellingboe's willingness and ability to organize and teach the ad hoc group to sing in harmony and on the same page—in forty minutes or less. He has lots of experience, he says, because given the schedules of volunteer singers, every Sunday is a "drop-in choir."

Last month's group had its usual mix of visitors, one-time singers, and choir members, ranging in age from 20 to 94. Two former members who can no longer sing regularly also joined in. Both have progressive medical conditions that make life, especially singing, difficult.

But neither singer's physical challenges have diminished their love for music and their joy in singing 4-part harmony with others, a joy that was evident as the choir led the congregation in a hymn from Maui, "Ekolu Mea Nui" (#496 in *The New Century Hymnal*), and offered Brad's setting of "I Love to Tell the Story." Their faces glowed as they sang with the others.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," proclaimed the Letter to the Colossians, "with gratitude in your hearts, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." Filled with joy and gratitude, the whole drop-in choir did just that. No matter their age or situation, they were "clothed in love and bound together in perfect harmony."

They sounded great, too.

Chancel Decorators:

September 1 Margaret Chow
September 8 Becky and Erin Wada
September 15 LCC Picnic
September 22 Lisa Shimazu
September 29 Susan Miura
October 6 Placido Valenciano

Lay Readers:

September 1 Lisa Jeffery
September 8 David Iha
September 15 LCC Picnic
September 22 Shelly Cassler
September 29 Alicia Corbett
October 6 Margaret Chow

Financial Secretaries:

September 1 Gale Domingesl, Faith Matsumura
September 8 Eleanor Chow, Marlene Morimoto,
Pat White
September 15 LCC Picnic
September 22 Joan Fujimura, Lisa Jeffery
September 29 Faith Matsumura, Verna Yamase
October 6 Noreen Tavares, Jolynne Uyesono

Greeters/Ushers:

September 1 Norman Seki, Steven Yamashita,
Larry Yasuda, Peter Yukimura
September 8 Nadine Oshima, Yolanda Yamauchi
September 15 LCC Picnic
September 22 Russell and Lisa Shimazu,
Laurie Wakayama
September 29 Jimmy and April Oyadomari
October 6 Calvin and Gail Murashige

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