

# The Breadfruit

**Lihue Christian Church**  
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*Next Breadfruit Deadline: December 15*



## December Calendar

Worship services are held every Sunday in the Lihue Christian Church sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. Kids Klub meets from 8:30-9:15 a.m. Breakfast on the lanai begins at 8:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

- |                    |                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>December 1</b>  | <b>Communion Sunday</b><br><b>Donations of non-perishable food and hygiene items accepted</b>                                       |
| <b>December 8</b>  | <b>Kids Klub</b><br><b>Worship</b>                                                                                                  |
| <b>December 15</b> | <b>Kids Klub Presentation during worship</b><br><br><b>Christmas Potluck Luncheon immediately following worship LCC Social Hall</b> |
| <b>December 22</b> | <b>Kids Klub</b><br><b>Worship</b>                                                                                                  |
| <b>December 24</b> | <b>Christmas Eve Worship</b><br><b>8:30 p.m. LCC sanctuary</b>                                                                      |
| <b>December 29</b> | <b>Kids Klub</b><br><b>Worship</b>                                                                                                  |

## Good Endings Make Great Beginnings

### Words for the Beginning: Advent Reminders for New Seasons

As the new church year begins, we turn once again to preparation for the coming of the Messiah. To help us do that, we will share times of conversation using a new Advent devotional booklet "Words for the Beginning."

**Conversation Groups will meet:**

**Tuesdays at 10:30am and at 5:30pm**

**December 3, 10, and 17**

Come to any session on any Tuesday. The devotional booklets are available in the sanctuary and church office. They are also available electronically if you'd prefer.

Please contact Pastor Cheri for more information.

## Pastor's Message

### Hearts As Wide As the World

(by Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey: A Daybook of Wisdom and Faith*)

*The awareness of being part of the communion of saints makes our hearts as wide as the world. The love with which we love is not just our love; it is the love of Jesus and his saints living in us. When the Spirit of Jesus lives in our hearts, all who have lived their lives in that Spirit live there too. Our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents; our teachers and their teachers; our pastors and their pastors, our spiritual guides and theirs – all holy men and women who form that long line of love through history – are part of our hearts, where the Spirit of Jesus chooses to dwell.*

*The communion of saints is not just a network of connections between people. It is first and foremost the community of our hearts.*

I think of something like this often as I reflect on those who have passed away. My parents' love lives within me. My grandparents' love lives within me. All my aunts and uncles and cousins who cared about me in some way or cared about the community or the world – their DNA is part of mine. For my family, at least, that comes from a faith in God – held by my German Lutheran maternal grandparents. Or the faith, mostly unspoken, of my paternal grandparents, who never attended church that I can remember but whose DNA was full of Quaker ancestry with a little Methodist thrown into the mix.

Some of my own DNA also comes Sunday School teachers who showed me God's unconditional love. I never felt like a "poor, miserable sinner" even though I confessed this every week in the Lutheran liturgy. Perhaps in reciting this confession and hearing the words of forgiveness each week, God's grace became part of my DNA long before I understood the meaning of grace.

We all have some DNA from our blood families and others who cared for us. And, as children of God, we have God's grace. May we all live into that grace so that our DNA will be handed down to those that come after us.

God's peace to all of you,  
Pastor Cheri



## **Alaka'i Hale Pule**

Church Council  
Harold Tavares, Moderator

The Church Council happily reports that we are moving to secure a settled pastor for our church. Pastor Cheri has been great in tending to our flock and shows an energy for innovation and outreach that we need at LCC. She is so interested in staying at LCC that her husband Keith moved here from North Carolina. Conference protocol necessitates that at the end of her contract as interim pastor, we must hire her as our designated term pastor for a year beginning in April 2025. In April 2026, we hope to name her as our settled pastor. Keep your fingers crossed!

The church budget is a major concern at Council meetings. Various avenues of revenue are being explored so we can keep the lights on. Treasurer Calvin Murashige provided the leadership to stem the tide of rising costs. Using returns from wisely invested funds, we can balance the budget without using our investment principal. We are indebted to the Uyeno and Kawakami ohana for their generous endowments to LCC that have made all this possible.

As a new year approaches, your Council is organizing plans for maintenance, repairs, and replacements where they are needed on our church campus. The following people will work on a list of what needs to be done:

Preschool–Penni Taketa  
Grounds–Calvin Murashige  
Parsonage–Keith Dennis  
Sanctuary–Karen Nakamura  
Social Hall–David Iha

Additionally, we have two estimates for an extended lanai roof for protection from inclement weather during Sunday breakfasts and special occasions when the sanctuary overflows with people. The Board of Trustees led by David Iha will announce their decision..

We are now accepting nominations from those wishing to serve on the Church Council in 2025. I am not returning as moderator. It has been a wonderful learning experience, and I am truly grateful for your support during the last four years. Thank you to my wife Noreen for her assistance and for being my inspiration to be a better Christian. Aloha.

## Kids Klub

Rachel Furutani

On Sunday, December 15, 2024, the children of LCC's Kids Klub will share the Blessings of our revised program during Worship Service. We encourage all to be a part of this sharing.

For the last five months, Kids Klub has taken an alternative approach to the traditional Sunday School structure. The Goals during this change were:

### **August - October: Intergenerational Relationship Building**

Every Sunday members of the congregation shared a gift with the children. They taught Kids Klub something with which they were blessed and were passionate about. The group interacted and got to know each other. The sparkle of sharing and the reception of new learnings by the children was well worth the three months.

### **November - December: Faith Formation through Mission and Service**

We are now reflecting on the past three months and how mission and service tie into Church and God. How are we lead to develop Faith Through Mission and Service?

**Come. Worship with us** on Sunday, December 15, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Kids Klub will

## **Coming Soon: Educational Opportunities**

### **New Members/Renewing Members Class**

Information sessions for those wanting to join Lihu'e Christian Church or anyone interested in knowing more about LCC and the United Church of Christ are welcome to participate. Each class will be held in the sanctuary shortly after the worship service. For more information, please contact Pastor Cheri.

January 12, 2025:

What is the United Church of Christ?  
Practices of faith in the United Church of Christ

February 2, 2025:

What is Lihue Christian Church? What does it mean  
to be a member of LCC? A little history lesson  
and other possibilities

### **Confirmation - Faith Formation**

Begins Sunday, January 19, 2025

For younger members (Grades 5-8), a Confirmation/Faith Formation Class will begin on January 19, 2025, following the worship service. We will have a monthly class on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, January thru May (except April), break for June and July, and resume again in the fall of 2025.

For more information, please contact Pastor Cheri or Rachel Furutani.

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

John Arzadon, Margaret Chow, Rev. Richard Chun, Pastor Glenn Frasier, Jean Hamura, Pacita Jimemez, Florence Lardizabal, Kailee Mu, Deb Munar, Chanelle Quinones, JoAnn Rapozo, Alice Shigeta, Russell Shimazu, Rachel Tamura, Robert Tamura and all in need...

**The Family of Dorothy Higuchi**, 101, who passed away on October 21, 2024. Survivors include son Rodney, daughter Sandy (Mike) Takaezu, and two grandchildren. A Celebration of Life is scheduled at LCC on December 7, 2024.

## ʻAe Kamali`i Preschool

Pam and Penni, Co-Directors

### Celebrating National STEM Day

November 8 was National **STEM Day** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) The children enjoyed a morning of experiencing and learning through fun activities and games. This year's activity stations included Sink and Float, Cars and Ramps, Construction and Design, Measuring, Color Mixing, Weights and Measures, Using our 5 Senses, Paper Helicopters, Mud Brick Molding and more!

The children had a great time testing everything out and learning new skills along the way. Mahalo to our parent volunteers who helped with the activity stations!

**Top Photos (L-R):** Color Mixing; Ramps, Speed and Gravity  
**Bottom Photos (L-R):** Design and Construction; Testing Weight and Balance



In the anticipatory days before Christmas, create your own prayer or complete this prayer:

## *A Christmas Prayer*

Adapted from Tricia Goyer

Dear Lord, thank you for \_\_\_\_\_ . I feel much joy because \_\_\_\_\_ . This Christmas I am excited about \_\_\_\_\_ . I am also very grateful because \_\_\_\_\_ . I pray I always remember that Christmas is not what I can receive, but more about what I can give. This Christmas my heart sings about \_\_\_\_\_ . It is exciting to know that the angels are singing with me. During this Advent season, I can help others by \_\_\_\_\_ . May all I do be done with a heart full of love. Christmas Day, 2024, will be a very special day because \_\_\_\_\_ . May the celebration of Jesus' birth be the highlight of my Christmas Day!

Amen.



**Chancel Decorators:**

December 1 Tassie Agena  
December 8 Margaret Chow  
December 15 Deb Munar  
December 22 Penni Taketa, JoAnn Tanaka  
December 29 Penni Taketa, JoAnn Tanaka  
January 5 Placido Valenciano

**Financial Secretaries:**

December 1 Faith Matsumura, Verna Yamase  
December 8 Noreen Tavares, Jolynn Uyesono  
December 15 Penni Taketa, JoAnn Tanaka  
December 22 Kimberly Inouye, Erin Wada  
December 29 Susan Fujii, Crystal Fujikawa  
January 5 Gale Domingsel, Faith Matsumura

**Lay Readers:**

December 1 Calvin Murashige  
December 8 Clifton Kukino  
December 15 Lisa Jeffery  
December 22 Alicia Corbet  
December 29 David Iha  
January 5 Keith Dennis

**Greeters/Ushers:**

December 1 Nadine Oshima, Yolanda Yamauchi  
December 8 Lisa Shimazu, Lauri Wakayama  
December 15 Koa Yukimura, Neil Yukimura  
December 22 Jimmy and April Oyadomari  
December 29 Russell and Becky Wada  
January 5 Keith Dennis, Sam Shirai

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