

The Breadfruit

Lihue Christian Church
www.lihuechristianchurch.org
2943 Kress Street, Lihue, HI 96766
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Next Breadfruit Deadline: January 15



January 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!

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| January 5 | Communion Sunday
Donations of non-perishable food, hygiene supplies, and old, clean towels may be left in the boxes near the entry |
| January 9 | Pastoral Relations Committee meeting
3:30 p.m. Kauai Realty |
| January 12 | Begin New Members/Renewing Members Class following worship |
| January 19 | Kids Klub
Worship |
| January 26 | Lihue Christian Church Annual Meeting following worship |
| January 28 | Rev. Dr. David Vásquez-Levy: "Faith Based Resistance to the Rise of Christian Nationalism"
Koloa Union Church 5:30 p.m. |

Church Keys

Calvin Murashige

It has been a while since Lihue Christian Church conducted an inventory of the keys used to open padlocks and doors. If you have a key(s) to any of the LCC doors or padlocks, please provide a list of keys indicating which door(s)/padlock(s) the key(s) will unlock. If you no longer need an LCC key in your possession, please surrender the key to the LCC office and indicate which door the key will unlock.

If you know that a now-deceased person had a LCC key in their possession, please inform the church office.

Pastor's Message

New Year's Resolutions – Beginning Again

By the time you read this, Advent and Christmas will be memories. I hope that you have good memories of Christmas 2024 even if they include a few extra pounds. Maybe you even managed to get in a much-needed afternoon nap once in a while. But the New Year is upon us. I'm curious, did any of you make a New Year resolution or two?

I gave up on those several years ago when I realized that while I could keep a resolution going for about a month, life gets in the way and the resolution goes by the wayside. But each January, I keep trying. I keep *beginning again*.

Sometimes I think *beginning again* is the story of God's relationship with God's people all through scripture. Humans kept *beginning again* to follow God's commands but those attempts never quite came to fruition. Yet, when we read the stories, we see the most important thing – God didn't abandon God's people. God didn't abandon Adam and Eve; God put them in a new place. God didn't abandon Abraham & Sarah; God gave them a child. God didn't abandon Joseph when he was sold into slavery in Egypt; God made him one of the leaders in Egypt. God didn't abandon the Hebrew people when they were enslaved in Egypt; God led them out. The stories continue on and on and on. The people kept *beginning again*.

Through Jesus, God expanded the meaning of "God's people" to be all people everywhere. Through all the failures of humanity, God keeps hanging on to us. And if God can hang on to us, then we can keep *beginning again*.

So, what are the resolution(s) you'll make this year? What will you have to *begin again* in just a few weeks? When you *begin again*, remember these reminders from God.

***You are a blessing. We can't go alone. Do the good that is yours to do.
Hope is worth the risk. Love knows your name.
Don't forget to laugh. The road isn't straight.***

Blessings for your beginning!
Pastor Cheri

Educational Opportunities

New Members/Renewing Members Class

Information sessions for those wanting to join Lihue 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 future possibilities

Confirmation – Faith Formation

Begins Sunday, January 19, 2025

Beginning in January – more information soon!

For younger members (Grade 5 – Middle School), a Confirmation/Faith Formation Class will begin in January. We are working to find dates and times good for families.

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, Lester Kunimitsu, Florence Lardizabal, Kailee Mu, Chanelle Quinones, JoAnn Rapozo, Alice Shigeta, Russell Shimazu, Rachel Tamura, Robert Tamura and all in need...

Wanna Keep in Touch?

A long-time member of Lihue Christian Church, Rachel Tamura would appreciate receiving a card, short note, or even a letter. Mail may be sent to:

Rachel Tamura
c/o Avis Tamura
1011 Prospect Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

OR

Rachel Tamura
c/o Outreach Care Home
98-1282 Hoohuali Place
Pearl City, HI 96782

ʻAe Kamaliʻi Preschool

Pam and Penni, Co-Directors

December was a short but packed-full-of-fun month at school. Our Winter Break began around mid-month, so we squeezed in as many holiday activities that we could to make it extra special for the children.

This year our holiday activities included making special gifts for parents, Christmas caroling around the neighborhood, classroom games and songs, our Christmas program/potluck dinner, and of course, our annual Ornament Workshop.

With the help of wonderful parent volunteers, each child was able to make nine ornaments to take home and hang on the family tree.



Photos (L-R): Christmas Tree, Angels, Snowman, and Caps and Sweaters Ornaments

Photos From 2024

Top (L-R): The Mikasa family at the baptismal of Nato and Lucille's great-granddaughter. Hailey Gokan's baptism by Pastor Cheri.

Bottom (L-R): Iris Shimazu and Barbara Akama Shimazu from Pasadena visited LCC on Thanksgiving Sunday. Priscilla Simao and Pacita Jimenez are members of the Adult Day Care Choir.



ANNOUNCEMENT:

Religion Scholar to Speak on Christian Nationalism

The Rev. Dr. David Vásquez-Levy will speak on the topic "Faith-Based Resistance to the Rise of Christian Nationalism" at the January meeting of the Kaua'i Association of the United Church of Christ. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at Kōloa Union Church, located at 3289 Poipu Road in Kōloa.

Christian nationalism, and the ideologies that have fueled it from the very founding of our nation, have left a centuries-long trail of devastation that continues to this day. Through an alliance with White supremacy, it has served as a justification for many of our country's sins: the genocide and dispossession of Native peoples; slavery and racism; the targeting of those who are historically marginalized and the physical and political exclusion of migrants in this country. Because extremist Christian rhetoric is behind much of the leadership, financing, and rhetoric attacking equality and civil rights today, many progressive social movements have despaired over the role of religion in public life. But ceding the power of religious narratives to extremists can have serious consequences. Join us for a conversation on the need to reclaim the religious narrative from this kind of extremism.

Dr. Vásquez-Levy is the President of Pacific School of Religion (PSR) in Berkeley, California, a progressive Christian seminary, graduate school, and center for social justice that prepares spiritually rooted leaders to create a world where all can thrive. A committed pastor, a nationally recognized higher education and immigration leader, and a sought-after speaker, Vásquez-Levy leads at the intersection of faith, higher education, and social change.

Dr. Vásquez-Levy's talk will be followed by a time for questions and answers, as well as a brief presentation of upcoming courses in Theological Education in Leadership offered in Hawa'ii by PSR.

A reception of hors d'oeuvres and drinks will follow the presentation.

For More Information:

Rev. Dr. Alan Akana (Kahu)

808-742-6622 (ofc)

808-855-8806 (cell)

<http://www.koloaunionchurch.org>

Chancel Decorators:

January 5 Placido Valenciano
January 12 Susan Miura
January 19 Yolanda Yamauchi
January 26 Corliss Shimabukuro, Robert Tamura
February 2 Scouts of Troop 148

Announcer/Lay Readers:

January 5 Keith Dennis
January 12 Susan Miura
January 19 Sanae Morita
January 26 Alicia Corbett
February 2 Scouts of Troop 148

Financial Secretaries:

January 5 Gale Domingsel, Faith Matsumura
January 12 Eleanor Chow, Marlene Morimoto
January 19 Russell and Becky Wada
January 26 Joan Fujimura, Lisa Jeffery
February 2 Faith Matsumura, Verna Yamase

Greeters/Ushers:

January 5 Keith Dennis, Sam Shirai
January 12 Russell and Becky Wada
January 19 Calvin and Gail Murashige
January 26 Joshua and Alice Pajela
February 2 Scouts of Troop 148

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