

# The Breadfruit

Lihue Christian Church  
 www.lihuechristianchurch.org  
 2943 Kress Street, Lihue, HI 96766  
 Office: (808) 245-2348  
 E-mail:  
 lihuechristianchurch@gmail.com

*Next Breadfruit Deadline: March 15*



## March 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!

- March 1-31**    **LCC Scholarship Committee Fundraiser**
  
- March 2**        **Communion Sunday**  
 Donations of non-perishable food and hygiene products may be left in the boxes at the sanctuary's entry
  
- March 5**        **Ash Wednesday**  
 Worship at Noon LCC  
 Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
  
- March 9**        **First Sunday in Lent**  
 Luke 4:1-13
  
- March 16**      **Second Sunday in Lent**  
 Luke 13:31-35
  
- March 23**      **Third Sunday in Lent**  
 Luke 13:1-9
  
- March 30**      **Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## Scholarship News 2025

Noreen Tavares

The Scholarship Committee will hold its annual fundraiser during March. Unfortunately, the heavy winds which blew through Kauai about two months ago carried our Apple Giving Tree poster away so it will no longer be making an appearance.

This year, donation forms will be passed out in church. Forms and cash/check (Write the check to Lihue Christian Church with the word "Scholarship" on the memo line.) should be submitted to Noreen Tavares.

Those persons unable to attend church but would like to contribute to the Scholarship Fund, please send your monetary donation to the church office. Please write: **ATTN: Noreen Tavares** on the envelope.

In the past three years, scholarships of \$2000 each were awarded to five students. We look forward to awarding many, many more in the years to come. Thank you for your support.

## Pastor's Message



### All Are Welcome At The Table

*"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."* These are the opening words of many of the Apostle Paul's letters to many churches. And so, it is with Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth. In this letter, which we heard portions of in February, Paul was responding to the rumors he'd heard about the many dissensions between the members of the church. However, one of the topics not covered in the text we used is the Lord's Supper. (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)

For me, the Lord's Supper (also called Holy Communion or the Eucharist) is an important part of worship and faith. Before I could take Communion, I had to be confirmed and, for me, confirmation class was three years! Today, however, in the United Church of Christ and other protestant denominations, all are welcome at the table, confirmed or not, member of a specific church or not. We have come to understand that the Communion Table is God's table, not mine or the churches. God invites everyone to the meal.

The belief that one must complete a series of lessons before taking Holy Communion comes, in part, from Paul's letter. In the church in Corinth, the ritual observance of Jesus' last supper was combined with a community meal. But there were problems and Paul addressed them writing, *"When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing?"* Paul goes on to say, *"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord...For all who eat and drink **without discerning the body**, eat and drink judgment against themselves."*

Just what did Paul mean about *discerning the body*? For some denominations, this means that unless the person eating and drinking understands that the bread and wine are transformed into (transubstantiation), or are in, with, and under (consubstantiation), or represent symbolically Christ's sacrificial body and blood, that person could not/should not partake in the Lord's Supper. And the church allowing someone to partake without proper understanding is wrong and causes the person to sin. Whew! Who wants to be responsible for another's sin? However, there is another understanding of *discerning the body*. What if the body in question is not so much that of Christ's sacrificial body but rather the church, the church as the body of Christ. Paul was angry. *"What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter, I do not commend you."* (1 Cor. 11-22b) He was angry because the members were not eating together. They were not sharing equally in the nourishment, physical and spiritual. The United Church of Christ *Book of Worship* puts it this way:

Recent biblical scholarship....recognizes in Paul's words not a concern for a cognitive understanding of sacramental presence but a concern for an experience of the body of Christ present in the community of faith that Christ gathers as the church."

With this communal understanding, in which discernment is primarily a recognition of belonging and not merely a matter of intellectual comprehension, adult Christians are urged to ask "whether, by excluding children from the Lord's Supper, we are not equally guilty [with the offending Corinthians] of failing to 'discern the body', and, therefore, of endangering the reality of the supper."

And, for me, there is one more reason for saying, "All are welcome at the table." The Lord's Supper is a sacrament of the church. A sacrament is the outward and visible sign of the invisible grace of God. It is an act of God, not of humans. If someone presents themselves at the table, I will serve them. God is the judge as to what's in their heart. Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!  
Pastor Cheri



## UCC Office of Public Policy & Witness

For those of you wanting more information on what you can do in light-of the current events in the United States, check out this website:

<https://www.ucc.org/office-of-public-policy-and-advocacy-in-washington-d-c/>

This is our own United Church of Christ’s **Office of Public Policy & Advocacy** in Washington D.C. It offers leadership for social action concerns and provides resources to the national, conference, and local churches. This office works to identify, analyze and forecast

emerging social issues and legislation which call for the attention of the denomination and our churches. On this site you will find areas of interest including **Children & Education, Civil & Human Rights, Economic Justice, Environmental Justice, Global Concerns, Health, Just Peacemaking, Racial Justice, Women, and Worker Justice**. These are the main areas but there are currently a total of 58 issues being tracked by this office. The site has suggestions on how to act on specific issues as well as resources for more information.

Our Statement of Faith reminds us of two things:

- God promises us courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
- God promises God’s presence in trial and rejoicing.

Keep these in mind as you share God’s love on your journey.

Pastor Cheri

### **Need Help Using Technology? Cell Phone? Camera? Text? Computer?**

**Kūpuna Connections** has free classes for you. Learn how to connect with Family & Friends & Loved Ones by email, text or video.

#### **Classes offered at Lihue Public Library**

Wednesday, March 12, 2:30-4:30

Wednesday, March 19, 10am-12pm

Thursday, March 27, 2:30pm-4:30pm

High school students will be available to help at the 2:30-4:30 classes.

Register at [www.kupunaconnections.org](http://www.kupunaconnections.org) or call 808-755-3645.

Visit [www.kupunaconnections.org](http://www.kupunaconnections.org) for more information.

### **Need tax help? Check out AARP Foundation’s Tax-Aide on Kaua’i**

- Free tax help on a first come/first-served walk-in basis.
- Hours 9:00 am to 12 pm all offices
- Bring last year’s 2023 returns with current tax year 2024 tax documents.
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#### **Lihu’e Neighborhood Center**

3353 Eono St

Open Tuesdays 2/11-4/1 (closed 3/18)

#### **Kukui Grove Center**

3-2600 Kaumualii Hwy #1710

Open Fri 3/28 and Sat 3/29

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

John Arzadon, Margaret Chow, Rev. Richard Chun, Gale Domingsel, Pastor Glenn Frasier, Jean Hamura, Pacita Jimemez, Lester Kunimitsu, Florence Lardizabal, Kailee Mu, Chanelle Quinones, JoAnn Rapozo, Alice Shigeta, Russell Shimazu, Travis Taketa, Rachel Tamura, Placido Valenciano and all in need...

**The Family of Sonya Kobayashi.** Sonya passed away at the age of 66. She is survived by children David Kobayashi and Lisa (Justin) Kauwale, a grandson, her mother, Linda Chun, and her brother Kim Hanjo.

**The Family of Robert Tamura.** Robert will be remembered as a devoted member of LCC. He is survived by children Tammy Tamura, Corliss (Robin) Shimabukuro and Gordon (Lisa) Tamura, and three granddaughters.

## Kids Klub Thanks Our First Responders

On Sunday, February 16, 2025, Kids Klub members visited the Lihue Fire Station. They thanked the firefighters for helping our community and gave them delicious muffins.



## When Toil is Not Your Portion

Kaji Douša, Senior Pastor of The Park Avenue Christian Church, a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ, in New York City (2/11/2025)

*[Jesus asked,] “Now why do you all worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither labor nor spin... So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow has worries of its own. Sufficient is the trouble of this day.” - Matthew 6:28 & 34 (as translated in Year B, pg 303)*

“Why do you worry?” Jesus asks. The question, at first, seems annoying. I worry because there are things to worry about.

Pushing past my frustration with his question, I come to understand this: Jesus challenges us to reframe our fears and prioritize joy, peace, and faith.

This isn’t just personal—it’s political. Choosing to trust in God disrupts systems of fear and toil, making space for liberation and justice.

My mother, a SNCC organizer, reminded me of this through a phrase they would often share with each other after the end of a long, dangerous day of organizing: “My cotton bag is heavy.” Which put things into perspective for me. While things may be hard, I am not living under the toil my ancestors did. I do not have to pick cotton.

There is violence in toil. But there’s also a resilience that we can draw upon. Our ancestors’ toil reminds us that progress is not guaranteed; it requires faith, action, and collective care.

This may feel hard to imagine. You may find yourself in despair. But even there, we remember: God remains on the throne. Healing, and renewing. No matter what.

### Food, Craft and Plant Sale

Sunday, April 27

LCC Front Entry Area

Funds earned will be used to move the piano and organ and to pay for electrical work needed to support the move.

## ʻAe Kamali`i Preschool Pam and Penni, Co-Directors



### Lunar New Year Celebration

Kung Hee Fat Choy! Wishing everyone happiness, luck and prosperity in 2025, the year of the Snake.

The children had a great time decorating their headbands and shakers in preparation for our annual Chinese New Year parade. We shared our well wishes with the Kaua'i Adult Day Health grandmas, grandpas and staff, Aunty Karen at the church office and Pastor Cheri. Our parade and celebration ended with a rainbow confetti (Fruity cereal) toss on the hill behind the church.





## A Message From Festus “Kweku” Adjei Joan Fujimura

Festus will turn 20 years old on April 27, 2025. LCC has been sponsoring him since he was five years old.

*Dear friends,  
I really appreciate the support you have given me and my family. I say a bit (sic) thank you and pray that God will bless you.*

*A customer ordered a wardrobe from our shop and my mother asked me to do it myself for him and the customer was very impressed about it.*

*Everything is going on well and I am having new experience with my work too.*

*Prayer request from Festus: I want you to pray that God will help me with my vision and let my dream come true.*

*Prayer for my sponsor: I pray that God should guide you through whatever you are doing and also bless you and your family with so much joy.*

*Worship the Lord your God only.  
Amen*

*Luke 4:8*



## *Calling for Class of 2025 Graduates*

Do you have a family member, relative, or friend who will be graduating this year? If so, please contact Joan Fujimura at 808-639-4833 or leave the graduate’s name and contact information with Karen Nakamura (808-245-2348.)

We would love to honor them and invite them to participate in a Baccalaureate Service in May 2025.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR: SAVE THESE DATES!**



**Saturday, April 19, 2025**

 *Egg Hunt Preparation,  
Movie Night, Pizza & Popcorn*

**Sunday, April 20, 2025**

*Easter Sunday Egg Hunt  
following service  
Stay tuned for more  
information and sign-up!*

# Gift Card Scam Alert

Pastor Cheri

Recently, a text message was sent out using my name. The message stated that I needed help. We know the fact that the members of Lihue Christian Church are so compassionate so I want to let all of you know that 99.9% of the time I would never ask for help over a text message, nor will I ever ask for money or a gift card through a text message.

Gift Card Scams have been around for quite a while but we can all learn how to not get taken in by them. Here's some information from the US Federal Trade Commission:



**?** Buying a gift card to pay someone?

**!** **STOP. It's a scam!**

**!** Gift cards are for gifts, not for payments.

**HANG UP ON Gift Card Scams**

**Report gift card scams** to the card issuer, the police, and the Federal Trade Commission.

**ReportFraud.ftc.gov** →



**Is someone on the phone telling you to pay them with a gift card to:**

- pay an IRS debt
- keep your Social Security benefits
- keep your utilities on (electricity, water or heat)
- pay for tech support
- pay for a family member in trouble
- pay a member of the military needing money
- pay bail or ransom
- avoid arrest or deportation

**If you answered yes, HANG UP. It's a scam.**  
Gift cards are for gifts, not for paying someone.

Report the scam to the Federal Trade Commission  
↓  
**ReportFraud.ftc.gov**

For more information on gift card scams, visit  
↓  
**ftc.gov/giftcards**

**Contact the card issuer:**

<b>Amazon</b> (888) 280-4331	<b>iTunes</b> (800) 275-2273
<b>Ebay</b> ebay.com/giftcardscams	<b>Steam</b> help.steampowered.com
<b>Google Play</b> google.com/support	<b>MoneyPak</b> moneypak.com/security

**Chancel Decorators:**

March 2 Donna Loo  
March 9 Alice Pajela  
March 16 Danita Narciso  
March 23 Lisa Shimazu  
March 30 Gail Murashige  
April 6 Tassie Agena

**Announcer/Lay Readers:**

March 2: Susan Miura  
March 9 Alice Pajela  
March 16 Mary Starr  
March 23 JoAnn Yukimura  
March 30 Sara Miura  
April 6 Kyrus Domingesl

**Financial Secretaries:**

March 2 Susan Fujii, Crystal Fujikawa  
March 9 Gale Domingesl, Faith Matsumura  
March 16 Eleanor Chow, Marlene Morimoto  
March 23 Russell and Becky Wada  
March 30 Joan Fujimura, Lisa Jeffery  
April 6 Faith Matsumura, Verna Yamase

**Greeters/Ushers:**

March 2 Norman Seki, Steven Yamashita,  
Larry Yasuda, Peter Yukimura  
March 9 Lisa Jeffery, Laurie Wakayama  
March 16 Keith Dennis, Sam Shirai  
March 23 Russell and Becky Wada  
March 30 Calvin and Gail Murashige  
April 6 Joshua and Alice Pajela

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