

Manoa Valley Church

(United Church of Christ)
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Minister

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Calendar Highlights

August 15

Council Meeting

August 20

Newsletter Deadline

August 26

Search Celebration
Luncheon after worship



What a grand time was had by all who attended the July Celebration on July 8. Thank you to the following members of the Board of Christian Education – Gary and Raedeen Archuleta, Kelvin and Dawn Hamada, Laura Glenn, Jocelyn Kasamoto, Ruth Komatsu and Maizie Okimoto – for planning this Family Ministries event. They were assisted by Donna Emoto, Kaipō Meinecke, Jane Nakabayashi and Reggie Tamashiro.

The gym was filled with youngsters through senior citizens enjoying the food, games and balloon creations. The pony rides were a favorite with the children who waited patiently in the long line for their turn.

Congratulations to those who shared their cooking talents in the chili cook-off and salsa, cobbler and Jello contests. The following are the winners in each category:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Chili | 1 st place - Lois Kwon |
| | 2 nd place - Rose Niimoto |
| | 3 rd place - Thelma Izu |
| Cobbler | 1 st place - Bertha Fujioka |
| | 2 nd place - Ann Haioka |
| | 3 rd place - Jocelyn Kasamoto |
| Jello | 1 st place - Uilani Archuleta |
| | 2 nd place - Agnes Hirotsu |
| | 3 rd place - Maizie Okimoto |
| Salsa | 1 st place - Sarie Uechi |
| | 2 nd place - Lahela Akau-Naki & Katarina Gassmann |
| | 3 rd place - Gwyen Nosse |

Their efforts along with all the other entries provided a wonderful meal for everyone.

This event provided not only members of the Manoa Valley Church ohana with a time of fun and fellowship, but enabled the church to reach out to the community with a family orientated activity and the joy of Christ.

Safe Church Policy Reminder

The deadline for compliance with our Safe Church Policy is approaching! For all who regularly and/or occasionally volunteer with our Sunday Child Care or Sunday School, you are required to read the policy and submit the disclosure form by September 1, 2007. The policy and forms are available on our web site or through the church office.

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The Miracle Of The Afternoon Sun

I've always wanted to share this illusive scenery with folks like you and me who may have had similar visions especially during airplane travels.

The day was dismal, with misty rain. It was not cold as our Hawaiian weather is often warm. Overhead there was only a thick, deep dark gray.

As I waited at the airport for the departure of my flight to the Island of Hawaii, I thought: What an awful day to fly. For that matter, what an awful day to do anything! But presently we were on the plane, the great turbojet engines gave forth their burst of power, and we began to climb. Our thrust upward through that "soup" was like flying through a starless night.

Less than two or three minutes there was a sudden burst of light, and our mighty aircraft broke out above the clouds somewhat like a mammoth prehistoric sea creature which has risen from the deep. As we followed our assigned angle of ascent, I somewhat casually glanced down those heavy, dark clouds I had abhorred from below. ***But there were no dark clouds!*** Everything was bright, bathed in the light of the afternoon sun.

There were cloud mountains and cloud valleys. There were ripples and dimples, and rolling fields and ravines and plains---all sculptured of cloud, and all white or white-on-white touched here and there with artistic accents of shadow just to emphasize the majestic beauty of the cloud-scape which stretched out everywhere below. It was all so very inviting; I wanted to go down and walk on it!

Yes, these were the very clouds I had seen so dark and oppressive from below. But I was seeing them now from ***the other side***, from a different perspective and in a different light.

And I thought of our human life and troubles --- our difficulties and problems --- the clouds that sometimes obscure our sky. When they are upon us we can see them only from below; we can see them only on the shadowed side. But, we need to know that there are two sides to every

cloud, that every cloud has ***another side***, and that the other side is ***never*** like this one. Then, I recall the prophet Isaiah saying to his followers who were pleading that Isaiah show them his God: (*Isaiah saying*) "...***Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him, and to our GOD, for He will freely pardon.***" (*Isaiah 55:6-7*)

Now, when I go about my duties in the half-night surrounded by dark, misty clouds which hang low above the airport and city, I amuse myself playing little mind games. I imagine what these clouds are like on ***the other side***. I painted mind-pictures of white cloud-scapes and take mind-flights above them and mind-walks among them.

No, of course I cannot really ***see*** these lovely things. But, I saw them once -- and I have seen the sun. And, Yes, I know they are there. This is precisely the point: ***I don't have to see them; I know already that they are there.***

Now, you understand me, I hope. I have learned something about trouble. It is this: ***When it is upon me, I can really see it ONLY from its dark underside.*** But it also has a bright ***upperside***, and I know the other side is there even though I cannot see it at the time. Rich silver linings for clouds? ***Absolutely!*** Silver linings for the clouds that obscure your sky? ***Certainly!***

*Aloha Pumehana,
Kahu Kaina*

Asking for your help:

My son, Jon, will be getting married in August. We're looking for tropical flowers and greens for the wedding decorations. These are the items that we'll need: **Heliconia** -- upright or hanging (lobster claw) -- any size, - red -- any size, **Plumeria** -- yellow, **Ti leaves** -- on stalks, **Croton** -- reds, yellows, oranges, **Ferns** -- lauae.

If you have any of these items in your yard and would be willing to have us come to gather them, please call me at 523-7626 and I'll give you more details. Mahalo! Evie Gallagher



August Lectionary and Worship

August 5, 2007

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. William Kaina, preaching

Readings: Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9,43
OR Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23;
Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11;
Luke 12:13-21

August 12, 2007

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. William Kaina, preaching

Readings: Isaiah 1:1,10-20; Psalm 50:1-8,
22-23 or Genesis 15:1-6;
Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3,
8-16, Luke 12:32-40

August 19, 2007

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. William Kaina, preaching

Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2,8-19 or
Jeremiah 23:23-23, Psalm 82,
Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

August 26, 2007

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. William Kaina, preaching

Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6 OR
Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8;
Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Worship Helpers

Song Leader: Leah Young
Bell Ringer: Keoni Williams
Acolyte: Lahela Naki
Sound Ministers: Adam, Clinton, Jerry, Kel
Communion : Mae and Gerald Saito, Alice Murata,
Rose Niimoto, Alvin and
Bertha Fujioka, Jocelyn Kasamoto,
and Dianne Ishida

August 5

Worship Leader: Susan Yamamoto
Ushers: Laura Miho, Edna Yonaoshi
Greeter: Aki Williams
Accompanist: Reggie Tamashiro
Child Care: Nobue Izutsu, Florence Tsuda,
Janet Horinouchi
Children's Moments: Dawn Hamada

August 12

Worship Leader: Susan Yamamoto
Ushers: Laura Miho, Edna Yonaoshi
Greeter: Kaipo Meinecke
Accompanist: Catherine Miyahira
Child Care: Laura Glenn, Nancy Taba,
Gayle Ohashi
Children's Moments: Dawn Hamada

August 19

Worship Leader: Porfirio Guerra
Ushers: Gary and Raedeen Archuleta
Greeters: Rikki-Ann and Alysia Archuleta
Accompanist: Reggie Tamashiro
Child Care: Jerry Hamada, Catherine Miyahira,
Alison Kawamoto
Children's Moments: Kathy Lee

August 26

Worship Leader: Keoni Williams
Ushers: Gary and Raedeen Archuleta
Greeters: Rikki-Ann and Alysia Archuleta
Accompanist: Catherine Miyahira
Child Care: Susanne Shimabukuro, David
Shimabukuro
Children's Moments: Joanne Funasaki



On July 14th, your ministry leaders took a time of retreat at the UCC Conference Center. It was important for us to take some time to be in care with each other. The Council meets regularly to conduct the business of the church but it was time to spend some time discerning God's Will for our "next steps". Now that God has revealed that His plan is for the Reverend Anne Findlay-Chamberlain to be our Pastor, we are excited to determine the directions that Ministry at MVC will take us!

We were reminded of Saint Paul's teachings from Romans 12:4-6. Thanks, Earl!

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

The Council will be formulating plans based on what has been revealed and the congregation will be apprised of the plans, the hopes, the dreams and the goals of your ministry leaders over the upcoming months. It's an exciting time at Manoa Valley Church! Stay tuned! Stay involved! If you aren't sure what gift God has given you, please be bold, step out in faith and try a new direction for your personal ministry. Opportunities are many. See me or another Council member to volunteer. Joining a Bible Study is an excellent way to find the direction for your personal ministry.

While summer-time winds down, I pray that you can take some time to retreat from the business of your daily lives and see if you can know what He wants from you as a Child of God. Whether it is for a week in a mountain resort, a day with friends or a few moments taken in prayer, time with God is essential for everyone. I hope you are having a great summer!

O Ye With Talent (maybe 'hidden', but still talent)!

We know something about you! We know you have 'hidden' talents! We know there are ukulele players, there are those who play other instruments, there are those who do dramatic vignettes, etc., and there are all kinds of other talents in our church family. We would very much like to know if you would be willing to share your talents. Doesn't mean you have to do it forever – just once or twice, depending on how you feel about it the first time!

For example, wouldn't it be fun to have all the ukulele players in the church join the praise team one Sunday to play during the gathering songs? Or wouldn't it be fun to have someone do a dramatic vignette for us? Doesn't matter your age – 2 to 102. And no shame, eh? We're all family here. Contact Leah Young at youngleahb@yahoo.com, or call her at 391-5359, or see her at church. Or see one of the members of the Worship Committee.



Nu Oli Singers

You are invited to join us at the first fall rehearsal of the Nu Oli (Good News!) Singers on Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. There is no need to be able to read music. The only prerequisite is to love the Lord, and love music. The rest will fall into place naturally.

Worship Ministry News



We Sparkle! We

- Offer and welcome you to join us as a member of our creative ministry! We meet once a month and really accomplish a myriad of tasks that aim at enhancing our worship here.
- Try out different ideas that add to our worship from greeting to leading to decorating to bringing flowers to bringing snacks.
- Appreciate creative ways and haven't-been-used-in-years ideas to decorate the sanctuary and share a lesson through drama, dance, and music, etc.

8/1	Christine Kaneshiro
8/1	Adam Miyamoto
8/7	Carol Koga
8/8	Kerri Tenno
8/12	Kaysha Yonehara
8/17	Yoshio Yukinaga
8/23	Theodore Isekawa
8/25	Gail Morimoto
8/28	Akiko Nosaka
8/29	Talin Sokugawa

Grandparents' Day!

This day is coming on Sunday, September 9, 2007.
Hooray for our kupuna!

We will honor grandparents or anyone of that age! Bring in your grandchildren and your great grandchildren! We will recognize the family groups in worship service. We will also photograph the family groups. If your grandchildren are not in church...we will "borrow" some children so a photo can be taken. Then the following week the photos will be displayed on a bulletin board. And you will get a copy of it in a child made frame!

Update on our Laundry List!

- Areca palms have been repotted
- Two large palms grace the breezeway compliments of Kathy Payne
- New planter boxes are "under construction" by Ken Chun
- Pulpit scarf for Advent is in the works by Rose Niimoto
- Trustees are looking into repairing the wheels of our bulletin boards
- New carpet is on its way
- Pew cushions are being discussed

Finally

In this Season After Pentecost which runs to the end of November, allow yourself to grow in the Spirit through daily devotion and reflection.

Grandparents' Day:

In 1970 a West Virginia housewife, Marian McQuade, initiated a campaign to set aside a special day just for grandparents. By 1973 the West Virginia legislature declared it a special day. Then in 1978 the US Congress proclaimed National Grandparents' Day (first Sunday after Labor Day).

It is a day to honor grandparents and to give them an opportunity to show their love for their children's children. This is also a way to help children become aware of the strength, information, and guidance older people can share.

Even on the international level, the elders are beginning to receive well earned recognition for their experiences and wisdom.

•At a recent Nelson Mandela 89th birthday bash in South Africa, he spoke of how the global community can benefit from various world leaders like Jimmy Carter and Kofi Annen of the UN.

•**To celebrate his 89th birthday on July 19, South Africa's elder statesman, Nelson Mandela, has launched a group of global elders to bring their collective experience to addressing some of the world's most pressing problems.**

Search Celebration

Sunday, August 26

9 am worship and potluck luncheon

You are invited to help Manoa Valley Church
celebrate the end of the nearly 2-year Senior Pastor Search.
Hallelujah! Praise God!

The Senior Pastor Search Committee members will be recognized:

Earl Yonehara, Chairperson

Gary Archuleta

Melanie Ching

Porfirio Guerra

Kaysha Izumoto

Adam Miyamoto

Wally Oki

Jane Okubo

Jodi Yi

Beverley Yuen

Please join us for a potluck luncheon following worship service.

The Aloha Committee will prepare rice, punch and cake.

Your BOCE presents the following Bible study course:

MY ULTIMATE DESTINY?

or

THE BIG-PICTURE LOOK-SEE OF THE BIBLE

FOR: People with little or no Bible background, and for those wanting a quick review of the essentials of the Bible.

CONTENTS: We will track God's actions down thru the ages to fulfill His promises about the Christ, starting with His **FIRST** promise in Eden, and despite the disobedience of the Israelites. We will also see how all of the above are directly relevant to **US** today.

SCHEDULE: 3 months, Tuesdays, August 7th thru October 30th, 10:30-11:30 A.M., room 206 of the gym.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Any modern translation of the Bible, especially the New International Version (NIV).

DISCUSSION LEADER: Henry Uehara

ENROLLMENT: Limited to 10 to promote discussion. **ALL** questions will be **WELCOMED** and encouraged.

SIGN UP: On the bulletin board at the sanctuary entrance.