

KEAWALA‘I CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (USA)

2024 Annual Meeting Report



*“O ke Akua ka pu’uhonua a me ka ikaika o kākou, He kōkua kokoke loa i ka
pōpilikia ‘ana.”*

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

Psalm 46:1

**Sunday, January 28, 2024
Mākena, Maui, Hawai‘i**

‘ŌLELO MIKIONA

MISSION STATEMENT



*Ho‘okumu ‘ia ka ‘Ekalesia o Keawala‘i e ko mākou mau kūpuna
i kūpa‘a ma hope o ke aloha o ke Akua
mai kekahi hanauna a kekahi hanauna aku.*

*‘O mākou nō nā haumāna a Iesū Kristo,
e heahea akula me ke aloha i nā lāhui a pau i ko mākou ‘ohana.*

*Lawelawe ‘ia nā lāhui a pau e ko Keawala‘i
ma o ka pilina ‘uhane o ke kaiāulu ākea,
i ho‘olōkahi ‘ia ka ho‘omana Kalikiano
me ka mo‘omeheu Hawai‘i.*

Keawala‘i Congregational Church founded by our kūpuna
is committed to sharing God’s aloha
from generation to generation.

As *haumāna* of Jesus Christ
we welcome all, love all, and accept all into our ‘ohana.

Keawala‘i ministers to all
through the spiritual gifts we share as a diverse community
uniting our Christian faith and Hawaiian heritage.

Keawala'i Congregational Church
United Church of Christ (USA)

2024 Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 28, 2024
Mākena, Maui, Hawai'i

PROPOSED AGENDA

11:30 a.m.

Opening Prayer – *Kahu* Scott Landis

I. Review & Approval of Proposed Agenda - (*Pages 3-5*)

Recommended Action: To approve the Proposed Agenda.

II. Review of Minutes: 2023 Annual Meeting – (*Pages 6-11*)

Recommended Action: To receive the minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting.

III. Report of Council, Boards, Committees, Programs & Pastor

A. Church Council – Bruce Burkitt, Moderator (*Pages 12-15*)

B. Board of Deacons – Bob Brem (*Page 16*)

1. Music Ministry Program – *Kahu* Landis (*Pages 17-18*)

C. Board of Mission & Outreach – Kate Acks (*Pages 19-20*)

1. Outreach Committee – Judi Pasco (*Pages 21-22*)

2. Steering Committee – Cindy Mead (*Pages 23-24*)

(*Hui Mālama O Keawala'i*)

D. Board of Trustees – Tom Nelson (*Pages 25-26*)

E. Report of the Pastor – *Kahu* Landis (*Pages 27-28*)

Recommended Action: To receive the Council, boards, committees, and program reports and the Report of the Pastor.

IV. 2024 Report of the Nominating Committee (*Pages 29-30*)

A. Nominations & Elections of Officers, Boards & Committees

Recommended Action: To receive the nominations for Officers, Board of Trustees including the *Pā ilina 'ohana/Pō'aialoha* Committee, Board of Deacons including the Choir Committee; Board of Missions & Outreach including the Mission Committee and Outreach Committee; Board of Christian Education including the Children's Ministry Committee, Youth Ministry Committee, and Adult Ministry Committee.

Recommended Action: To move that the nominations be closed and that all the nominations be placed on the ballot for election.

B. Affirmation of Appointments

Recommended Action: To affirm the appointment of delegates to the *'Aha Mokupuni* and *'Aha Pae'āina* meetings in 2024 and that the delegates will be the Moderator or Vice-Moderator.

V. 2024 Meeting Dates

A. Congregational Meetings

Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 26, 2025

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, September 8, 2024

B. Church Council

Sunday, June 16 2024

Sunday, November 10, 2024

Recommended Action: To approve the dates for the Congregational meetings and Council meetings for 2024 and the annual meeting for 2025.

VI. 2023 Report of the Treasurer and Report of the 2024 Proposed Operating - Budget Alice McDermott (*Page 31-34*)

The 2024 Proposed Operating Budget was developed through the work of the Board of Trustees in consultation with the various boards, committees and programs of the church as well as the Church Council.

Recommended Action: To receive the 2023 Report of the Treasurer and approve the 2024 Proposed Operating Budget.

VII. New Business

- A. Church Council
 - 1. By-laws update

VIII. Announcements

- A.
- B.

IX. Closing *‘Ohana* & Adjournment –*Kahu* Landis

**Keawala'i Congregational church
United Church of Christ
2023 Annual Meeting
Sunday, March 12, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Moderator Edie Kapiko at 11:47 am. Opening Prayer was provided by Kahu Scot Landis.

ATTENDANCE - See Appendix A

QUORUM - Moderator Edie Kapiko determined we have a quorum.

AGENDA - Motion made by Kate Acks to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded and approved.

MINUTES - There was discussion regarding corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Dian Gruber to defer and modify minutes for corrections and send minutes to next Church Council meeting for review and approval. Motion was seconded and approved.

REPORTS

Church Council - No corrections to report.

Board of Deacons - No corrections to report.

Board of Mission and Outreach - No corrections to the report.

Music Ministry Program - No corrections to the report.

Outreach Committee - No corrections to the report.

Steering Committee - No corrections to the report. Cindy Mead absent.

Board of Trustees - No corrections to the report. Tom Nelson absent.

Report of the Pastor - No corrections to the report.

Motion made by Kate Acks to receive the Council, boards, committees and program reports and the Report of the Pastor. Motion was seconded and approved.

Report of the Nominating Committee

A. Motion made by Kate Acks to receive the nominations for Officers, Board of Trustees including the Pailina 'ohana/Po'aialoha committee, Board of Deacons including the Choir Committee; Board of Mission & Outreach including the Mission Committee and Outreach Committee; Board of Christian Education including the Children's Ministry Committee, Youth Ministry Committee, and Adult Ministry committee. Motion was seconded and approved.

B. Affirmation of Appointments

Motion made by Kate Acks to move that the nominations be closed and that all the nominations be placed on the ballot for elections. Motion seconded and approved.

MEETING DATES

A. Congregational Meetings

Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 28, 2024

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, September 10, 2023

B. Church Council

Sunday, June 18, 2023

Sunday, November 10, 2023

Note - Comment made that by-laws require quarterly meetings.

Church council meeting held February 26, 2023

Second meeting - June 18, 2023

Third meeting Congregational meeting - September 10, 2023

Forth meeting - November 12, 2023

Motion made by Kate Acks to approve the dates for the Congregational meetings and Council meetings for 2023 and the annual meeting for 2024. Motion seconded and approved with one opposition.

2022 Report of the Treasurer and Report of the 2023 Proposed Operating Budget

Motion made by Sue Nygren to receive the 2022 Report of the Treasurer and approve the 2023 Proposed operating Budget. Motion seconded and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CHURCH COUNCIL

1. Church Council authority to re-designate funds as needed

Discussion followed

Motion by Loretta Brem to give Church Council the authority to re-designate funds as needed without permission of the designee. Motion seconded and approved with one opposition

2. Pastoral search Committee guidance

Discussion followed regarding options available for the congregation.

Part-time pastor is a settled pastor that is not full time.

Settled Pastor has a call that is full time and the term is indefinite.

Designated Term Pastor has a designated term and has designated tasks to fulfill. They can be called as a settled pastor in the same location.

Dennis Barger made a motion that it is the desire of the congregation to give guidance to the Pastoral Search Committee to look for a designated pastor with a term of 5 years. Motion was seconded and approved.

3. Pledge campaign was discussed and one comment was made that the Board of Trustees has approved this program already.

Motion made by Barbara Fernandez to adopt a pledge program. Motion seconded and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting closed with the singing of Iesu No Ke Kahuhipa and Kahu Scott provided the closing prayer at 1:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Somera
Secretary

Proposed 2023 Budget Detail

Ordinary Income / Expense

Income

4400 – Revenue	
4401 • Tithes and Offerings	
4401-B Summer Appeal	25,000
4401-A Winter Appeal	70,000
4401 • Tithes and Offerings – Other	<u>160,000</u>
TOTAL 4401 • Tithes and Offerings	\$255,000
4422 • Wedding Income	5,500
4422A • Blessings	300
4470 • Interest Checking	<u>200</u>
TOTAL 4400 – REVENUE	\$261,000
4500 • Other Church Revenues	
4507 • Donations – Flowers, etc.	400
4525 • Gift Table Sales – Gen. Fund	<u>4000</u>
Total 4500 • Other Church Revenues	\$4400

Total Income **\$265,400**

Expense

5110 • Advertising	700
5112 • Aloha Hour & Kitchen Supplies	1000
5120 • Boards and Committees	
5121 • Board of Deacons	8,500
5122 • Board of Trustees	50
5128 • Board of Mission & Outreach	7,500
5124 • Church Council	300
5125 • Music Ministry	100
5126 • Sunday School Program	50
5632 • Outreach Committee	<u>50</u>
Total 5120 •	\$16,550
5140 • Payroll	
5142 • Choir Director	-
5144 • Organist	-
5143 • Accompanist	8,400
5146 • Sunday School Coordinator	-

5151 • Outreach Coordinator	4,540
5150 • Payroll Taxes & Insurance	<u>900</u>
Total 5140 • Payroll	\$13,840
5170 • Wedding Expenses	<u>350</u>
Total 5100 • CHURCH SERVICES EXPENSE	\$32,440
5200 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	
5209 • Custodian	
5210A • Custodian	11,038
5210B • Payroll taxes and insurance	<u>1,300</u>
Total 5209 Custodian	12,338
5230 • Grounds Maintenance	8,000
5235 • Tree Trimming	7,500
5240 • Insurance	21,000
5255 • Repairs & Maintenance	4,000
5260 • Rubbish Removal	2,300
5265 • Property Taxes	2,300
5268 • Security	800
5270 • Utilities	<u>9,800</u>
Total 5200 • BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$68,038
5300 • GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	
5315 • Bank Charges	1,200
5323 • Copy Machine	9,300
5325 • Bookkeeping & Payroll	18,000
5335 • Office Supplies & Expenses	5,000
5336 • Licensing	3,000
5339 • Payroll – G & A	
5341 • Administrative Coordinator	44,772
5346 • Payroll Taxes & Insurance	<u>22,210</u>
Total 5339 • Payroll – G & A	\$66,982
5360 • Postage & Mailing	2,000
5365 Equipment Repair & Replacement	100
5370 • Phone, Fax & Net	<u>1,200</u>
Total 5300 • GENERAL & ADMIN EXPENSE	\$106,782
5400 • PASTOR’S COSTS	

5410 • Auto Expense	4,400
5421 • Housing Allowance	<u>56,500</u>
Total 5421 Auto & Housing Allowance	\$60,900
5430 • Payroll	
5430 • Payroll Insurance	1,500
5432 • Regular Salary	73,078
5430 • Payroll Other	500
5440 • Medical / Dental	<u>24,180</u>
Total 5430 • Payroll	\$99,258
5450 • Pension	<u>18,141</u>
Total 5400 • PASTOR'S COSTS	\$178,299
5600 • OTHER CHURCH EXPENSE	
5607 • Flowers	400
5627 • Gift Table Mdse. – General	2,000
5657 • Church Dues/conferences/workshops	500
5681 • Excise Taxes	400
7010 • Income Tax	<u>50</u>
Total 5600 • OTHER CHURCH EXPENSE	\$3,350
NET TOTAL EXPENSE	\$388,909.00
NET LOSS OF:	-\$123,509.00

Note 1: A transfer of funds from savings will be necessary to balance the budget.

2024 REPORT OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Bruce Burkitt, Moderator

Thom Probst, Vice Moderator

Linda Somera, Secretary

Alice McDermott, Treasurer

Edie Kapiko, Asst. Treasurer

Tom Nelson, Board of Trustees

Bob Brem, Board of Deacons

Kate Acks, Board of Mission & Outreach

I will put my law within them and will
write it upon their hearts and I will be
their God and they will be my people.

E kau nō wau I ko’u kāmāwai ma loko o lākou.

A e kākau iho ma ko lākou na’au;

A ‘o wau auane’i ko lākou Akua, a ‘o lākou ho’i ko’u po’e kāmaka.

Jeremiah 31:33

Church Council

The Church Council, being the elected governing body and representative deliberative group of the church acting on behalf of the congregation, is composed of the church officers and the Chairpersons of the Boards of the church. The Church Council is responsible for reviewing the actions taken by the Board of Trustees, the Board of Deacons, and the Board of Mission and Outreach.

Meetings

Members of the Church Council met in March, June, September, and November of 2023.

Search and Call

We asked Linda Somera, Sue Nygren, Diane Gruber, Joe McDermott and Nathan Moore to be our new pastoral search committee. The group worked diligently to update the “church profile” ...which is like a resume for the church that is provided to prospective candidates on the UCC bulletin board. After our opening was posted on the UCC Ministry Opportunities, the committee received expressions of interest, reviewed resumes, and interviewed candidates. The committee recommended Reverend Gary Percesepe to the congregation.

Rev. Percesepe visited Maui with his family and on Sunday, December 10, conducted the church service. Following the service, the congregation met, and the general members voted to issue a call

to Rev. Percesepe. Rev. Percesepe accepted the call and is anticipated to assume his new role as Kahu of our church in late February 2024.

New Roof

A new roof was installed on the Hale Pule during the summer. It is a cedar shingle roof identical to the previous roof. Cedar shingles were selected to preserve the cultural heritage of the church. The contractor, Ram Pacific Roofing, was expressly diligent in picking things up so that Sunday services were not impeded and there were no safety issues. Ram Pacific also donated materials and labor for additional work that was done during the re-roofing.

Parking Lot

Goodfellow Brothers asked if they could use half of the parking lot to stage material for the rebuilding of Honoiki Street. Honoiki is the street that connects Makena Alanui (the upper road) with Makena Road (the lower road). The street is closed for approximately 8 months to be re-constructed as part of the Discovery Land development taking place above the church. The Trustees worked out an agreement with Goodfellow that is a win/win.

Pledge Program

The Trustees, working with Treasurer, Alice McDermott, initiated a pledge program for 2024 in an effort to improve the church's finances. Currently only 30% of our membership is supporting the church financially. Pledge forms were mailed to all general and associate members as well as a number of friends of the church.

The church is operating in a deficit mode, we are using our savings to augment the present giving.

Mahalo Nui Loa to the Board of Trustees for this work and their continued shepherding of the physical church and the church's personnel and financial affairs.

Aloha 'Oe

We lost three important members this year with the passing of Laurie Chang, Paulina Mitterhammer, and Kathy Hobson. Laurie and Kathy were stalwarts of the choir and all church activities. Their smiling faces and loving countenances will be missed.

Easter Season

We were able to hold our Easter Service outdoors again. It was well attended, and it was a pleasure to see the choir together again. Danette Kong and Cameron Keys continued the directing of the music ministry throughout the year. Again, we say *Mahalo Nui Loa* to Danette and Cameron for their service to the church. And we say *A Hui Ho* to Danette as she leaves the pianist position for exciting changes in her life. As we thank her for all her many contributions to the church, we welcome Louise Lambert as our new pianist. The music ministry continues to be an import part of our church, we are grateful to all who make it happen.

Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons continued their work of facilitating the worship services in their usual excellent manner. *Mahalo Nui Loa* to the Board of Deacons for doing a great job all year long. You are a blessing to the church.

By-Laws Revision

The Church Council formed a working committee to address changes to the Church's By-Laws. Judy Pasco, Edie Kapiko, Jim Gruber, Alex Butler, and Thom Probst served on the committee. It has been more than 25 years since the By-Laws have been updated. The suggested improvements and updating have been reviewed by the Church Council and will be offered to the Congregation to vote on during the annual meeting.

Christmas Eve Service

The closing of Honoki street and our concern for safety for the large number of vehicles that only had Makena Road to travel on caused us to move the Christmas Eve service time to 4:30 pm. So, it was a sunset service this year. The service was well attended and as usual, held on our front lawn. It was a beautiful, balmy evening with Christmas trees lit up and decorated with flowers. We had beautiful music with our special guest artists, Anthony Pfluke and Ke'ala Pasco dancing hula accompanied by Jamie Lawrence. The choir led the congregation in singing the Christmas Hymns as Kahu Scott and liturgist, Georgia McMillen, read the liturgy. Of course, we ended the service with Silent Night.

MAHALO NUI LOA

A HUI HO

Kahu Scott Landis accepted our call to be interim minister for up to a two-year period while we searched for a settled or permanent minister after the retirement of Kahu Alika. Two weeks after he started his ministry with us in 2020, Covid hit and changed everything. Scott, and his partner, Randy Spicocchi, quickly rallied and started providing a Sunday service to the congregation from their home via an iPhone and Facebook. The initial broadcasts had a slight technical glitch, the picture was sideways...and thus Sideways Productions was born. The technical glitch was resolved, and our form of internet broadcasts matured over time as they moved back into the sanctuary.

Scott gave outstanding guidance and support as the search and call committee launched in late 2021. But it was to no avail, as the Covid pandemic raged, the committee only received a couple of expressions of interest that were deemed to not be a suitable match. The Church Council asked Scott to extend his term with us for up to two more years as we waited for the Covid disharmony to abate prior to launching another search and call effort. Kahu Scott postponed his own retirement plans and graciously agreed to help us out for another two years.

It is hard to quantify or express the gratitude and thanks we have for Kahu Scott and his ministry to our church during very challenging times. His welcoming demeanor and kind benevolence were great assets as he stepped into Kahu Alike's shoes. Scott is an accomplished communicator, who always has the right word and thought for us. He quickly became an integral part of the church as we worked our way through all the Covid challenges. His guidance was always welcomed as is his great sense of humor.

Scott and Randy are retiring on Maui. We say *Mahalo Nui Loa* for a job well done and *A Hui Ho*.

Closing

In closing, I would like to thank all the Boards and committee members for their dedicated and faithful service, the Church Council for keeping us on track and our Administrative Coordinator, Andrea Yopez, who keeps things moving forward in the church office and contributes in so many other ways.

I especially want to thank the 'ohana of General Members, Associate Members, friends and visitors who support the needs and mission of the church and help with all the various tasks that are required to keep the church moving and maintained. Special thanks to all the *Menehunes* who help with all the different tasks that come up around the office, sanctuary and church grounds.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Mahalo Ke Akua,

Bruce Burkitt, Moderator

2023 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Robert Brem, Chairperson ('24)

Alex Butler ('24)

Cindy Mead ('24)

Karen Nelson ('25)

Sue Nygren ('23)

Victoria Smith ('24)

Jackie Strahn ('23)

John Whittemore ('24)

Earlene Cummings (Emerita)

In 2023, the deacons continued their service to Keawala'i and our congregation. In addition to the responsibilities of assisting *Kahu* Scott during the worship service, we set up the greeters table, outside seating, and refreshments of coffee, tea and water under the pavilion. We greet arrivals and handout the worship bulletins and song sheets. On the first Sunday of every month, we prepare the Communion elements and the altar area. Following the service, we host the aloha hour, then clean up and lock up the church building.

The deacons worked with *Kahu* Scott in the planning and preparation of both our Easter Sunday and Christmas Eve services. For Easter, we prepared the floral cross, set up 500 chairs, and helped with decoration. *Mahalo* to the many volunteers who helped with these efforts. We continued with the practice of using prepackaged Communion elements for that service.

Prior to the first Sunday in Advent, we procured and decorated Christmas trees on the altar area, set up the Advent candles, and decorated the sanctuary with poinsettias. In planning for our Christmas Eve service, there was concern about the safety of driving after dark along the detour route on Makena Road, with its narrow blind curves and no lighting. For this reason it was decided to hold the service at 4:30pm so that attendees could depart before dark. Because of the change in time, the detour, and downturn in tourism, we only ordered 400 chairs for the service. We were pleasantly surprised when attendance was more than expected, and we had to set up extra chairs to accommodate about 450. We were again blessed to have wonderful music from Anthony Pfluke on guitar and vocals, Ilsa Marie Lee and her daughter on piano and cello, the Keawala'i choir, and a special treat of hula from our own Keala Pasco, accompanied by Jamie Lawrence on guitar and vocals.

Membership is a primary responsibility of the Board of Deacons. A review of the General and Associate membership rolls was undertaken. A list was created of those who were thought to not be attending service, volunteering or otherwise contributing or maintaining contact with the church. A letter was sent to these individuals asking them to confirm their membership or otherwise update their preferred status. Of the 43 letters sent to General Members, 12 were returned confirming their current status. Those who did not respond are now listed as inactive. Inactive members have a voice but no vote in congregational meetings, per our Bylaws. They may request a return to active status by meeting with the Board of Deacons.

Following attendance at a membership forum, we received 5 new General Members during our December 3rd service.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Brem

2023 REPORT OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY PROGRAM

Cameron Keys, Choir Director
Danette Kong, Louise Lambert, Church Pianists

Choir Committee

Cindee Burkitt, Elizabeth Current, Jim Gruber, Edie Kapiko, Cameron Keys (*ex officio*)

Psalm 59:16-17

*Akā, e 'oli aku au i kou mana;
'O ia ho'i, e hīmeni leo nui aku au i kou aloha i ke kakahiaka;
No ka mea, he wahi malu a'e nei 'oe no'u,
He pu'uhonua i ko'u lā i pōpilikia ai.
E ko'u Ikaika, iā 'oe nō wau e mele aku ai;
No ka mea, 'o ke Akua nō ko'u wahi e malu ai, 'o ko'u Akua aloha mai.*

But as for me, I shall sing of Your strength;
Yes, I shall joyfully sing of Your lovingkindness in the morning,
For You have been my stronghold
And a refuge in the day of my distress.
O my strength, I will sing praises to You;
For God is my stronghold, the God who shows me lovingkindness.

Mission

We are so grateful for all the work involved by so many to continue our tradition of excellence in our music program. We seek to bring both variety and ensure cultural sensitivity in our musical selections and offerings. Singing praise as a community can bring heaven to earth.

Guest musicians

At the risk of leaving someone out, for which we apologize in advance, it is always so wonderful to welcome guest musicians to our services who join us in worship. In 2023, we welcomed some guest musicians including:

Ilse-Mari Lee for her organ playing and Elizabeth Lee (cello), and Ellen Caringer for her piano playing. It was a delight to hear them in duet.

Rob Ballard as soloist.

Christophe Javon as a guest pianist who was available with very short notice to cover for a few weeks while our pianist was on leave.

We were also blessed with the regular participation of the *Kanikapila* group (*`ukulele* and guitar players) under the committed leadership of Dennis Barger which rehearses weekly at Kalama Heights.

Choir

They are now back to practicing regularly on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. We were blessed by Cameron Keys being a faithful hymn leader and he has more recently taken on the role of Choir Director. We look forward to many future Sundays when the choir will offer anthems to enhance our worship.

Choir Committee

There is a Choir Committee, but they really have not often met this year, except to make consensus votes via email. There are several members of the committee who have been present to greet and prepare refreshments for community concerts. Concerts sponsored this year were the Maui Classical Music Festival in May, the Ben Verdery Guitar Class and Concert in July, and Ebb & Flow concerts in January and August. We are grateful for the committee's faithfulness and for their hospitality at the concerts.

Piano

We would like to give a special thanks to Danette Kong, our pianist, who has faithfully provided music selections and beautiful piano playing for our weekly Sunday worship services for the past year and one-half. Danette provided both excellent music but was also been a tremendous asset in helping the *kahu* in making musical selections and by securing guest musicians. Danette left us in October to pursue personal interests and we have been blessed with the musical gifts of Louise Lambert our new pianist. We welcome Louise as she brings her gifts and unique style to Keawala'i worship.

Me ke aloha o ke Akua,

Music Ministry Team

2023 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

Kate Acks

Edie Kapiko

*“Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”*

*“Mai ho’opalaleha kākou i ka hana maika’i; no ka mea, i ka wā pono e
‘ohi auane’i kākou, ke ho’onāwaliwali ‘ole kākou.”*

Galatians 6:9

Preface

Keawala’i’s Board of Mission & Outreach oversees the Mission Committee, Outreach Committee (Laura Moore, Chairperson) and the Steering Committee for *Hui Malama O Keawala’i* (Cindy Mead, Chairperson).

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Although the Board of Mission & Outreach did not meet during 2023, some special offerings received during the year fall under the *kuleana* or responsibility of the board. They provide support for the various levels of our church life including Keawala’i, the Hawai’i Conference and the national offices of the United Church of Christ. A total of \$18,964 was received in 2023 from the following:

‘Ōpūkaha’ia Scholarship Fund - February 2023

The fund provides scholarships for Hawai’i residents seeking graduate theological studies. The fund is administered by the Hawai’i Conference - United Church of Christ. A total of \$235 was received in 2023.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) - March 2023

This offering raised \$125 this year and provides support for refugees, relief and development work in more than eighty countries around the world. The funds are administered by the United Church of Christ Humanitarian and Development Ministries in Cleveland, Ohio.

Christmas Fund Offering for Veterans of the Cross - December 2023

A total of \$257 was received. Gifts to the Christmas Fund enable the Pension Boards’ Ministerial Assistance program to provide assistance to retired pastors and church workers in need. Lower income retirees continue to feel the financial stress more keenly

OUTREACH COMMITTEE
Fundraisers in 2023

Members and Friends had an opportunity to make donations through fundraisers for the Outreach Committee that raised a total of \$18,347. Fundraisers that were held in 2023 included a Golf Tournament on July 23rd and a December 17th Craft Faire and Bake Sale.

OCWM
Our Church's Wider Wider Mission - Annual

The annual budget of the church includes an allocation of \$7,500. Our gifts to OCWM is an investment in the values which define the Hawaii Conference of engaging the Spirit; walking humbly with Christ; supporting the peace and justice work of the church and the renewal of creation. Typically, half of our OCWM support remains in Hawai'i and the other half is passed on to our national offices for the wider mission support.

OTHER GIFTS

In addition to the special offerings, member and friends provide additional gifts for other needs of the church including the Building Fund, Keawala'i Endowment Fund, Local Mission Fund, Music Ministry Fund and Youth Fund of the Church.

Mission and Ministry

While it is evident that it takes financial resources to carry out the mission and ministry of the church, what is also evident is that it takes the commitment of many who exercise their spiritual gifts in serving the church and wider community.

Mahalo ke Akua,

Kate Acks, Chairperson

2023 REPORT OF THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Laura Moore, Chairperson ('24)
Loretta Brem ('24) Kate Acks ('24) Colleen DeLima ('24)
Sandy Cale ('24) Judi Pasco ('24)

Andrea Yopez, Outreach Committee Intake Coordinator

*God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him
as you have helped his people and continue to help them.*

Hebrews 6:10

Outreach Committee Intake Coordinator and Committee Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Outreach Committee to review requests from residents of Maui County (Maui, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i) for financial assistance based on a variety of reasons, including housing, medical, utilities, food, clothing, transportation, program fees for substance abuse, as well as other qualifying expenses.

The Outreach Committee meets monthly to review the information gathered by our very capable Outreach Committee Intake Coordinator, Andrea Yopez. The Outreach Committee reviews the various factors of the grant requests and gives careful consideration on a case-by-case basis before awarding each grant.

Support of Individuals and Families in Need

As of December 2023, a total of 106 requests were considered for support during the year. Grants totaling \$39,964.14 were approved in 2023 through the Local Mission Fund.

Since 2014, and through 2023, the Outreach Committee has administered a total of \$472,609.53 in grants to requests that were approved to help 1013 individuals and families in Maui County.

Partnerships

The work of the Outreach Committee continues through its partnerships with other churches, community groups and service agencies. These include Kahului Union Church, Aloha House and its Sober Living Housing, Family Life Center, and Mālama Family Recovery Center, as well as many others. Andrea directed many people to additional means of assistance, such as Rent Relief and Housing Programs, as well utility assistance programs.

Fundraisers and Donors

Makena Beach and Golf Club hosted Keawala'i Church for a fundraising golf tournament on July 23rd. Our committee members couldn't claim any first-hand knowledge of golf, and were grateful that Bruce Burkitt agreed to chair the event. He rounded up seventy-two golfers for a spectacular day of golf on the beautiful

Mākena Golf Course. *Mahalo* to Bruce and everyone who helped raise \$18,000* for our Outreach Program. (*before taxes.)

On December 17, our Christmas Craft Faire and Bake Sale raised about \$347*. *Mahalo* to the members of our Outreach Committee, as well as many members of our congregation, who donated and purchased crafts, handmade jewelry, and a multitude of delicious baked goods. The efforts of many went toward helping those in need throughout Maui County.

In Closing

On behalf of the Outreach Committee, I extend a most sincere *mahalo* to those who have made a contribution in one way or another to our Outreach program. We are grateful to each and every person that helped our committee offer not only financial assistance to those in need, but also the gift of hope and *aloha*.

Mahalo ke Akua!

Laura Moore, Chairperson

2023 REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Hui Mālāma O' Keawala'i

Cindy Mead, Chairperson Edie Kapiko Kahu Bob Nelson Tom Nelson

“E hana ‘ia ko ‘oukou mea a pau me ke aloha”

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

1 Corinthians 16:14

What is *Hui Mālāma O' Keawala'i*?

Hui Mālāma O' Keawala'i was established in 2015 as the “care giving” group of the church. Our Mission Statement is: “Helping each other in times of need.” *Hui Mālāma* was created because we have a growing number of members whose families live off-island and/or may need additional assistance due to illness, an emergency or help with the aging process.

Hui Mālāma performs four tasks on a short-term basis. They are: 1) make home and hospital visits; 2) run errands; 3) provide meals; and 4) provide transportation. If longer term help is necessary, the Steering Committee will also explore resources and referral services who can provide that help.

These tasks are carried out with the help of the Steering Committee and our *Hui Mālāma* ordained volunteers. The volunteers have gone through a training session given by the Steering Committee. The volunteers are given a *Hui Mālāma* handbook with information on how to safely carry out the tasks and services.

The Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is composed of four members which oversee *Hui Mālāma*. The center of our Steering Committee is our “Intake Coordinator” Auntie Edie Kapiko. With her extensive background in nursing, health care services and counseling, she is the one who does the “needs assessment” and reports back to the Steering Committee with her recommendations. The Steering Committee then discusses the best approach. If additional help is needed, volunteers are contacted. Care is taken to find a good match.

Another member of the Steering Committee is *Kahu* Bob Nelson, a retired Episcopal priest. He shares his many years of experience in working with parishioners. His advice is well received.

Tom Nelson is our recorder who provides us with a calendar showing dates when each of the committee members is off-island. This has been a valuable tool which allows us to tell, at a glance, who on the Steering Committee is available when we get a call. This saves time and phone calls and allows us to make contacts and arrange for help as soon as possible.

As chair, my job is to call meetings as necessary and to assure clear communication within the Steering Committee and *Kahu* Scott. I coordinate with the Intake Coordinator and contact our volunteers if needed. Whether *Kahu* Scott or one of the Steering Committee gets the initial phone call regarding a need, the information is passed on to the other Steering Committee members.

The Steering Committee tries to anticipate any needs if we are notified in advance, then the volunteers are given a “heads-up”. In case of an emergency, our Intake Coordinator, makes every effort to respond with an

assessment as soon as possible. The Steering Committee is consulted and if there is a need for volunteers, they too are immediately notified.

***Hui Mālama* Volunteers**

Hui Mālama would not be possible without our “on call” volunteers. They generously give their time, energy and talents to help those in need. It is a comfort to both *Kahu* Scott as well as the Steering Committee to know that we have dedicated volunteers in place when needed.

Much of our work is confidential. As a result, the volunteers continue to quietly go about their work. We receive letters of appreciation from members and their family expressing gratitude for our work. Some members of the congregation have required the assistance of our volunteers, while others are on a “wait and see” basis. If members of the congregation have families or friends who fulfill the needed tasks, *Hui Mālama* “steps back” and simply monitors the member’s progress.

The circle of volunteers has ebbed and flowed through the years. Some of our original volunteers are no longer able to assist us. We are blessed with new volunteers for which the Steering Committee is grateful. Laurie Tanner is our newest volunteer to complete the training session and has already been called to serve. We especially appreciate Laurie and Dennis for giving our Kalama Heights ladies transportation to choir practice and church every Sunday. The ladies look forward to their *kokua* and fun conversation each week. The Steering Committee is grateful to have a compassionate congregation. That is what makes *Hui Mālama* so special!

Mahalo

The magic of *Hui Mālama* is that we also have members of the congregation who are not “ordained volunteers” but have stepped forward to offer their help when needed. We are grateful for their *kōkua*. I would especially like to give a big *Mahalo* to Danette Kong and Cindee Burkitt for continued on-call support during these challenging years. Our goal to be a “caring church family” is fulfilled when so many have generously given their time in helping others.

We are so blessed with *Kahu Scott’s* amazing ability to adapt to any situation, listen with compassion and render help when needed. He has been a great asset to *Hui Mālama*. He along with the Steering Committee, our wonderful volunteers and together with all the prayers by our loving congregation, *Hui Mālama* continues to function.

Looking Ahead

If anyone in the congregation is aware of someone who would like a visit or has a need that falls within the purview of *Hui Mālama*, please let one of the Steering Committee know. Either our Intake Coordinator, Auntie Edie, or I will get in touch with you. We strive to grow and to find additional ways to “*Mālama* our ‘*Ohana*’”. We pray for a healthier and safer 2024. Let us never forget to “*Mālama*” one another.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Mead, Chairperson

2023 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tom Nelson- Chairman

Dennis Barger Bennet Cale Jim Gruber Joe McDermott
Georgia McMillen Tom Nelson Scott Rollins

A'ohe Hana Nui Ka Alu'ia **No Task Is Too Big When Done Together...**

Aloha *kākou*,

The Board of Trustees met monthly starting in February 2023. Working closely with the Officers of the Church we stayed on top of the many responsibilities we are tasked with.

We are grateful for the work of Alice McDermott, who as Treasurer provided critical financial information throughout the year.

The work of the Trustees is very grateful for the support and counsel of Bruce Burkitt – Moderator and Thom. Probst–Vice Moderator and sound system operator.

During 2023, a number of projects have been worked on including:

- Completed the *Hale Pule* Roof replacement which included reinforcing the support structure, fastening the gables to the walls, reinforcing the bell tower, and tying the roof framing to the rock walls. A grant of \$10,000 was obtained from the State Council of Hawaiian Churches to help cover the costs.
- Replanted the grass area under the Octopus tree that was damaged during construction.
- Negotiated with Goodfellow Brothers to use the Church parking lot during the road work on Hono Iki and Makena Road. As a result, the “Triangle” parking area was repaved at no cost to the Church and a \$5000 donation was made to the Church.
- Imua tree service kept the foliage on and adjacent to the property trimmed.
- The sprinkler system was upgraded.
- A new sign indicating the time of service was installed at the bottom of the main sign.
- Several activities were hosted by the Trustees which involved set-up, lighting, and closing. The Choir Committee helped with refreshments.
- The interior and exterior of *Hale Pule* was cleaned during a work day.
- The upper window in the *Hale Pule* that was damaged was repaired and reinstalled.

- The Endowment Fund was transferred to a Schwab account to earn significantly higher interest.
- A Pledge program was instituted and two appeals were conducted.

The Graveyard Committee is under the purview of the Board of Trustees and supports the maintenance of the graves, columbarium, and in-ground plaque area. This past year, poinsettias were placed on the graves during the holidays and weeds were kept at bay in the grave areas.

The Board recognizes the assistance of Earlene Cummings, Linda Somera and Tony Alleyne for their hard work and dedication to Keawala`i Congregational Church.

2023 Report of the *Kahu*

The Rev. Dr. Scott Landis

*I kēia wā, ke 'ike pōwehiwehi nei kākou, me he aniani lā; i kēlā wā aku, he maka nō, he maka.
I kēiā wā, ua 'ike pōwehiwehi au; akā, i kēlā wā aku, e 'ike maoli aku au,
e like me ka'u i 'ike 'ia mai ai.*

“For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face.
Now I know only in part; then I will know fully,
Even as I have been fully known.”

1 Corinthians 13:12

The scripture passage cited above has been a great comfort to me over the years. The words are embedded in Paul’s letter of reprimand to the church at Corinth as they bickered over who was most important and who had the most valuable spiritual gift. Setting that aside, the passage also reminds us of the importance of love as the guiding principle for everything we do. How we live our lives must be steeped in love. But even that, Paul reminds us, is a mystery.

The past few years of pandemic and the days following the devastating wildfires in Maui will likely forever be a mystery in our lives. There are many questions we have asked that are unanswerable. Surely Paul was correct, “for now we see in a mirror dimly.” Keawala’i is about to enter a whole new phase of its life that may have an air of uncertainty to you. You have called a new pastor to serve as your *Kahu* for the foreseeable future. He has distinct gifts for ministry and a passion to serve in this setting. But there is hesitancy in everyone’s mind. No one knows the way forward entirely. We all see in a mirror dimly. This is where our “faith muscles” are put to the test.

Keawala’i, you have been blessed with an amazing opportunity. The past has been rich and wonderful, but it is just that – the past. It becomes the solid foundation on which to build the future. It is the present and future that demands your attention. As you embrace your new *kahu* by sharing your experience and listening to his fresh perspective and new ideas, you have an amazing opportunity to move from seeing dimly and knowing only in part to seeing face to face and knowing fully. God will reveal and lead as you listen and discern.

My four years serving as your transitional pastor have provided ample opportunity to strengthen your faith muscles. We have learned much from each other. You have welcomed my strengths and have been gentle in accepting my weaknesses. While we have seen a steady decline in worship attendance and finances, we have learned new ways to be the church at a very challenging time in our global history. The way forward may not be easy. We have yet to see clearly, but the future can be filled with hope and possibility if we live in faith and believe that we will one day know fully as we are fully known.

As I write my last *“Report of the Kahu”* to you, I thank you for your support in one of the most difficult seasons of my ministry. My time among you was unlike anything I could have imagined. But I know God was in it and guided us all through it. I know that you will love your new *kahu* the same way you have loved my predecessor and me. When that happens, anything is possible.

As is always the case given our polity, I am not permitted to offer any pastoral services at Keawala’i when my tenure ends. Randy and I will continue to live on Maui, and we will most likely see you in town, but Rev. Percesepe will be your pastor and the one to whom you must turn in time of need.

I will pray for you during this new and exciting phase of transition and hope to hear (through the coconut wireless, of course) that all is well at Keawala’i. May *ke Akua* bless you abundantly as you continue serving in justice, compassion, and peace.

Aloha pumehana,
Kahu Scott

2024 REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

I. Officers:

Bruce Burkitt	Moderator
Thom. Probst	Vice-Moderator
Linda Somera	Secretary
Alice McDermott	Treasurer

II. Church Council

Parish Relations Committee

Georgia McMillen	2024
Judi Pasco	2024

III. Board of Christian Education

Laura Moore	2024
Karen Rollins	2024

IV. Board of Deacons (9)

Karen Nelson	2025
Bob Brem, Chair	2024
Alex Butler	2024
Cindy Mead	2024
Victoria Smith	2024
John Whittemore	2024
Sandy Cale	2026

Kate Acks, *Kako'o**

Robin Burke, *Kako'o**

Dian Gruber, *Kako'o**

Tom Nelson, *Kako'o**

Mei Shan Tanaka, *Kako'o**

Sue Nygren, *Kako'o**

Jackie Strahn, *Kako'o**

Earlene Cummings, *Emeritus*

Eleanor Ferreira, *Emeritus*

**Helpers*

V. Board of Mission & Outreach (4)

Kate Acks, Chair	2024
Edie Kapiko	2024
Cindy Mead	2024
_____	2026

Outreach Committee (9)

Kate Acks	2024
Loretta Brem	2024
Sandy Cale	2024
Colleen DeLima	2024
Laura Moore	2024
Judi Pasco	2024
_____	2024
_____	2024

VI. Board of Trustees (9)

Dennis Barger	2025
Bennett Cale	2025
Jim Gruber	2025
Joe McDermott	2025
Scott Rollins	2025

_____ 2026

_____ 2026

The following committee members shall be confirmed at the annual meeting:

Choir Committee

Cindee Burkitt	2024
Elizabeth Current	2024
Jim Gruber	2024
Edith Kapiko	2024
Laurie Tanner	2024
Cameron Keys, <i>ex officio</i>	2024
Louise Lambert, <i>ex officio</i>	2024

Endowment Committee

Bruce Burkitt (General Member)	2024
Alice McDermott (Treasurer)	2024
Thom. Probst (General Member)	2025
_____ (Trustee)	2024
_____ (Trustee)	2024

Pā ilina 'Ohana/

Po 'aialoha Committee

Phil Brown	2024
Earlene Cummings (Deacon Emeritus)	2024
Tom Nelson	2024

Steering Committee

(Hui Mālama O Keawala'i)

Edie Kapiko	2024
Cindy Mead, Chair	2024
Tom Nelson	2024

2023 REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Alice McDermott - Treasurer

This report will be distributed at the annual meeting.

Proposed 2024 Budget Detail

Ordinary Income / Expense

Income

4400 – Revenue

4401 • Tithes and Offerings

4401-B Summer Appeal 35,000

4401-A Winter Appeal 70,000

4401 • Tithes and Offerings – Other 200,000

TOTAL 4401 • Tithes and Offerings \$305,000

4422 • Wedding Income 15,000

4422A • Blessings -

4470 • Interest 15,000

TOTAL 4400 – REVENUE \$335,000

4500 • Other Church Revenues

4507 • Donations – Flowers, etc. 200

4525 • Gift Table Sales – Gen. Fund -

Total 4500 • Other Church Revenues \$200

Total Income

\$335,200

Expense

5110 • Advertising 800

5112 • Aloha Hour & Kitchen Supplies 900

5115 • Conferences & Workshops 100

5120 • Boards and Committees

5121 • Board of Deacons 8,000

5122 • Board of Trustees 50

5128 • Board of Mission & Outreach 5,000

5124 • Church Council 50

5125 • Music Ministry 100

5126 • Sunday School Program 50

5632 • Outreach Committee 50

Total 5120 • \$15,100

5140 • Payroll

5142 • Choir Director -

5144 • Organist -

5143 • Accompanist 9,700

5146 • Sunday School Coordinator -

5147 • Pulpit Supply 1,000

5151 • Outreach Coordinator 4,540

5150 • Payroll Taxes & Insurance 1,000

Total 5140 • Payroll \$16,240

5170 • Wedding Expenses	-
Total 5100 • CHURCH SERVICES EXPENSE	\$33,140
5200 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	
5209 • Custodian	
5210A • Custodian	11,038
5210B • Payroll taxes and insurance	1,300
Total 5209 Custodian	12,338
5230 • Grounds Maintenance	10,000
5235 • Tree Trimming	4,500
5240 • Insurance	25,000
5255 • Repairs & Maintenance	7,000
5260 • Rubbish Removal	2,500
5265 • Property Taxes	2,500
5268 • Security	800
5270 • Utilities	10,000
Total 5200 • BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	\$74,638
5300 • GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	
5315 • Bank Charges	2,000
5323 • Copy Machine	8,500
5325 • Bookkeeping & Payroll	17,000
5335 • Office Supplies & Expenses	3,000
5336 • Licensing	3,000
5339 • Payroll – G & A	
5341 • Administrative Coordinator	44,772
5346 • Payroll Taxes & Insurance	22,210
Total 5339 • Payroll – G & A	\$66,982
5360 • Postage & Mailing	4,000
5365 Equipment Repair & Replacement	-
5370 • Phone, Fax & Net	600
Total 5300 • GENERAL & ADMIN EXPENSE	\$105,082
5400 • PASTOR’S COSTS	
5410 • Auto Expense	3,600
5421 • Housing Allowance	60,000
Total 5421 Auto & Housing Allowance	\$63,600
5430 • Payroll	

5430 • Payroll Insurance	1,500
5432 • Regular Salary	60,000
5430 • Payroll Other	500
5440 • Medical / Dental	<u>17,737</u>
Total 5430 • Payroll	\$79,737

5400 • Pastor's Costs – Other	35,000
5450 • Pension	<u>21,000</u>
Total 5400 • PASTOR'S COSTS	\$199,337

5600 • OTHER CHURCH EXPENSE	
5607 • Flowers	400
5627 • Gift Table Mdse. – General	-
5657 • Church Dues/conferences/workshops	500
5681 • Excise Taxes	600
7010 • Income Tax	<u>50</u>
Total 5600 • OTHER CHURCH EXPENSE	\$1,550

NET TOTAL EXPENSE **\$413,747.00**

NET LOSS OF: **-\$78,547.00**

-
Note 1: A transfer of funds from savings will be necessary to balance the budget.