

Wai`oli Hui`ia Church

Newsletter



December 2019



Talk Story

by Duncan Forgey

Christmas Hawaiian Style: *Kanakaloka* in an Aloha Shirt

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, Dec 2
1st Sunday of Advent
Communion Sunday
10:00 am service

Wednesday, Dec 4
Sanctuary Tree Decorating
11:00 am

Sunday, Dec 8
Children's Christmas
Pageant
10:00 am service

Sunday, Dec 22
Hanalei Christmas Caroling
(time to be announced)

Sunday, Dec 22
Poinsettia Deadline

Tuesday, Dec 24
Candlelight Services
Christmas Eve
5:30 & 7:00 pm

The Hawaiian island's first Christmas was celebrated in 1786 on our island of Kaua'i. After many months at sea, Captain George Dixon and his crew of the merchant ship Queen Charlotte, celebrated with a dinner that included roasted pig, pie and rum mixed with coconut milk. They partied late into the wee hours toasting distant family and friends. Sobriety was not within their otherwise established ship's protocol.

Christmas beliefs and Christian values were not introduced into the Hawaiian culture until around 1820 with the arrival of Protestant missionaries from New England. Prior to that, Hawaiians celebrated *Makahiki*. *Makahiki* lasted four months and consisted of feasts, games and peaceful times. All wars and conflicts were "kapu" (forbidden) during this celebration representing a Hawaiian version of "peace on earth and goodwill toward men."

It wasn't until 1856 that the first official Hawaiian Christmas was celebrated by King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma. In 1858 *Kanakaloka* (Santa Claus) made his first appearance during a Christmas celebration at the Washington Palace (now the historical governor's residence). Santa delivered gifts to the keiki adding a new dimension to the holiday.

In 1862 the King declared Christmas an official holiday. From that day forth, Christian influences grew while old traditions faded.

Celebrating and feasting with 'ohana plus the more secular traditions of gift giving gradually became part of the Hawaiian Christmas. Before Walmart and Costco, keiki on Kauai did not expect a lot of toys. Christmas presents were bought at Ching Young, Ching Ma Leong, Lihue Plantation Store, Sharon Sue and Kress. Popular gifts from the parents were useful items of clothing and tasty snacks like the holiday bag with an apple, orange and candy.

Wai`oli Hui`ia member, Haunani Pacheco, recalls her grandparents putting keiki to bed around 7:00 pm on Christmas Eve. They were awakened for a 11:00 pm holiday church service. After worship and lots of singing, families went home to a wonderful

Christmas dinner and shared their gifts.

Local Christmas trees were Norfolk pines, Cook pines, palm trees or something of a more creative nature. Many excited families lined up for the arrival of the "Christmas Tree Ship" in Nawiliwili Harbor allowing them to pick the best of imported trees from the mainland.

Parents and keiki, with relatives abroad, waited for mail arriving from the mainland and Europe. This could take a great deal of time since Nawiliwili Harbor received only two postal deliveries a week via inter-island steamers. Mail was then loaded onto wagons and distributed. In Hanalei and other distant settlements, this took longer.

Of course, Christmas dinner continues to be the center of every Christmas celebration. Here is a sample of what you would have tasted as a child in the early days on Kaua'i.

Auntie Dora's Festive Hawaiian Mince Meat Recipe:

2 lbs. beef, 1 lb. suet, 3 lbs. apples, 2 lbs. currants, 1 lb. sugar, salt, pepper and spices. Chop fine and mix together. Lace with brandy and serve with Molokoa homemade ice cream for dessert.

Merry Christmas to all from your Wai`oli Hui`ia `Ohana

SO MANY REASONS TO BE THANKFUL

Kahu Stan Hankins, and his wife Brenda, were Wai`oli's special guests. Kahu Stan is a previous pastor of Wai`oli back in the days of hurricane Iniki. He delivered an emotional and compassionate sermon. We look forward to their next visit.

Wendy Elsasser blessed us once again by designing a beautiful, bountiful Cornucopia for the alter table. Wendy continues the tradition that started with her father, George Batt, a long time member of Wai`oli.

We continue to be thankful for the dedication of Kahu David and his wife Grace during our search for a permanent pastor.

Our keiki are thankful to Mildrene Swan for helping to show them compassion for children not as fortunate.

We all are very thankful for the volunteers who help with our Sunday School.

And, a good old-fashioned potluck is always an invitation for wonderful fellowship.



Kahu Stan and wife Brenda



Kahu David and wife Grace



Mildrene and Compassion Keiki

- I am thankful for all the many blessings God has provided for me and my family. Thankful for Ryland and Regan! Thankful for the many friends that are constantly loving on our family! - **Dayna Santos**
- Thankful for the love of family. - **Marau Beck**
- Sarah and I have found that prayerful GIVING is every bit as rewarding as RECEIVING! - **Bob Chrisman**
- Even though they are gone, I am thankful for my parents every day. - **Wendy Elsasser**
- The Weldon/Kanter Family is grateful for the loving support from friends and community during our post flood transition. - **Janey Kanter**
- I am thankful for health, family and friends, and especially for having a friend in Jesus. - **Susan Ferrell**
- Thankful for the love and support of my husband and friends. - **Madelynn Forgey**

COMINGS AND GOINGS

A warm welcome to the Taitano and Samau families who have just moved to Kaua'i from Alaska. Mahalo for worshiping with us.



Never goodbye but 'a hui ho', dear Daniel. Mahalo for again gracing us with your beautiful spirit and talents. God bless. Happy 30th!!!

Linda "Lee" Alexander, a media specialist from the state of Florida, will be visiting the North Shore for 2 months. She is looking forward to sharing her expertise with our island while here on vacation.



WAI`OLI `OHANA BIRTHDAYS

- Dec 01 - Tracy Stogner
- Michaela Meuldjik
- Dec 07 - Jan Drammer
- Dec 08 - Andrea Gardener
- Dec 14 - Karla Boone
- Dec 15 - Agnus Chung
- Dec 18 - William Kreigenhofer
- Dec 19 - Jim Oliver
- Dec 25 - Diane Mayo
- Dec 26 - Steven Boone
- Dec 27 - Mike Ferrell
- Dec 31 - Faith Collins



ICE CREAM FLOATS AND BINGO NIGHT WITH MR. P.

Popcorn, ice cream floats, whipped cream, maraschino cherries, fun prizes for all ages, new faces, giggles, and the great Mr. P!!
To top it off, food items were collected for our local food bank.



***Sunday Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.**

***First Sunday of every month - Communion Sunday**

***Sunday Worship Service ukulele/instrumental and choir rehearsal - 8:30 a.m. Sundays in the Sanctuary.**
Visitors are always welcome to join us. Just bring your lovely voices and instrument of choice.

Visit us on Facebook at Wai`oli Hui`ia Church • office: 808.826.6253 • email: waioli@aloha.net



For ... Jacob Maka Jr., Haunani Pacheco, Mal Dohrman, Bob Chrisman, Jan Drammer's daughter, 4 year old Kawehi'o`lani, Chippy Morishige, Samantha Fischer, Barbara Hollenbeck and all others with medical issues ... family of Mary Alice Heddlestone, family of Sam Mahuiki, Jr., family of Bill Clifford, family of Don Rohrer ... our Sunday School students and teachers.

Team Worship Service Angels

DATE	CHURCH CLEANING	WORSHIP LEADER	GREETERS/USHERS	COMMUNION/FLOWERS
Dec 01	Naomi & Val Yokotake	Duncan Forgey	Madelynn Forgey & Robin Clemens	Naomi Yokotake & Mildrene Swan
Dec 08	Naomi & Val Yokotake	Keola Yokotake	Ryan Gardener & Ward Thompson	Creche
Dec 15	Denton & Paula Holland	Duncan Forgey	Ryan Gardener & Sarah Chrisman	Creche
Dec 22	Denton & Paula Holland	Janey Kanter	Duncan & Madelynn Forgey	Creche
Dec 24	Mal & Pam Dohrman	Janey Kanter	Ward & Robin Thompson Hobey & Marau Beck	Creche
Dec 29	Mal & Pam Dohrman	Mal Dohrman	Sarah Chrisman & Pam Dohrman	Creche