

The Blinding Light of God and the Distinctions We Make

By Scott Suzuki-Jones

After services on September 18, 2022, The Reverend Canon Sandy Graham spoke to those gathered about our search for a new rector, where we are in the process, and what to expect as the process continues. In our talk, included were discussions about the make-up of our congregation racially, its size relative to other congregations, and how we perceive ourselves as a congregation.

How congregations perceive themselves is odd. Just as odd, is how individual members of a congregation perceive it. Even more odd, is how individual members perceive themselves. I have been blessed with visiting many congregations throughout Hawai'i. Of interest, each congregation as a body considers itself to be the best one. The majority of individual members likewise consider their congregations to be best. The minority of members who thought their congregation was good, but not great, were shopping around to join another. The smaller minority of members who thought their congregation was not good were on their way out. In terms of how members see themselves, especially unhappy ones, we all believe we know what is best for our congregation. Of further interest, among many members of these congregations, especially the middle-of-the-road and unhappy ones, a notable confusion existed between what constitutes a congregation and the priest-in-charge. Consciously or subconsciously, we often confuse the priest-in-charge with the congregation itself, especially when passing judgement on it.

Determining the size of a congregation is no less odd. All congregations cheat when reporting how many members we have. We are not under-reporting either, unless we are trying to reduce or be excused from helping to support the work of the Diocese, which includes subsidizing other needy congregations.

Our discussion about the racial make-up of our congregation compared to other congregations was not just odd, it was disturbing. The racial plurality of our congregation is Hapa, which has evolved to mean a mixed racial background. The second largest racial plurality is Asian, mostly Japanese and Chinese. After that, the many Caucasian races, and then our Polynesian races, primarily Tongan and Samoan. However, what bothered me was not our racial make-up, nor the racial make-up of other congregations. It was the discussion of "race" itself. Race and racial distinctions are perceived as opposed to real. On Earth today, and for the last 30-50 thousand years since the Neanderthals became extinct, there has been only one race in existence, the Sapiens one.

(The Blinding Light of God and the Distinctions We Make - Continued on Page 3)

Ke 'Alemanaka

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Want your article or
announcement published?

Submission Deadline:
Third Thursday of the Month
October 20, 2022

STAFF

Head of School: Jodi Yoshioka
Organist: Mark Kennedy
Office Manager: Leesa Steadman
Sexton: Stan Ornellas
Sunday School: Jessica Stack,
Scott & Gail Suzuki-Jones,
Michelle Comeau

Senior Warden: Beth Fincke
Junior Warden: Carol Taylor Kim
Treasurer: Martha Morgan
Clerk: Holoua Stender

Vestry

Jane Anderson Brian Crow
Matthew Chapman Leslie Isaki
Sarah Palm Tau'eva Lino
Susan Palmore Amy Schafer

Church Office Hours

Open Weekdays
9AM to 4:30PM

**Closed on Holidays*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save these days!

Book and Treasure Sale!

Volunteers needed for set-up on Fri., Nov. 11, and for
the sale on Sat., Nov. 12.

More information coming soon!

Our food distribution program is still open to receiving
donations of canned soup, corned beef, pork and
beans, chili with meat, corn, and vienna sausage.

Mahalo to September's Food Distribution crew:
Karen Brousseau, Terry Ledford, Jane Anderson,
Holo Stender, Sandy Souza, Beth Fincke, Isaac Rowe,
Kathleen Norris, Ann Ogilvie, Tau'eva Lino, and the
Comeau ohana.

The nursery is open for children under 3 years of age.

ZOOM SERVICE OUTLINE

SUNDAY

Worship at 8AM & 10:15AM

ID#: 854 4414 6891

Passcode: 1515

Adult Discussion at 9AM

ID#: 854 4414 6891

Passcode: 1515

Bible Study (RBTL) at 9AM

ID#: 661 508 747

Passcode: 1515

You can join any service with
your phone! Just call this
number: 1 (669) 900-6833
Then enter the meeting ID
and passcode when
prompted.

There are no African, Asian, Caucasian, Polynesian or what-have-you races, only the Sapiens one. All the skin colors and bodily characteristics we make a brough-hah over are Phenotypes, meaning the interaction of our Genotypes with our Environments. These are features we inherited from our ancestors, based on the millennia they spent in different latitudes that affected our skin, hair and eye colors, the weather conditions, landscapes and diets that affected our bodily statures and features, and eventually whom they mated with, and after that who we mate with now.

There are no White colored or Black colored races. Had we paid attention in our Middle School art classes, we would have learned white and black are not colors. White is the absence of all color in blinding, absolute light, and black is the absence of all color in blinding, absolute darkness. Had we been paying attention in our High School anatomy classes, we would have learned there are no yellow or red skin colors either, only brown ones, with some browns much darker like our original ancestors in Africa, and some much lighter, like our more recent relatives in northern latitudes like Iceland.

We are talking about Ethnic groups, not racial ones. I deeply believe all congregations, denominations, and religions should be all-inclusive. Inversely, I also believe none should be exclusive in any way, shape or form. Honestly, I do not think our ethnicities, and the ethnic make-up of our congregations are important, at all. If they are, then we should consider converting to Eastern Orthodoxy and join the Russian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Romanian, Greek, and the What-Have-You Orthodox Churches, and then filter ourselves into the most comfortable ethnic fit.

Frankly, it is about time we as a belief, faith, religion, denomination, philosophy, outlook, and practice take seriously the scientific fact we are all one race, the Sapiens one, and regardless of the manifold distinctions we manage to concoct, we are all God's Children, created equally in God's Own Image, in God's Very Likeness, and I dare say, in God's Phenotype.

SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER

The Reverend Alison Dingley will be joining us again during the month of October. We welcome the Reverend Frankin Chun, who will also be serving as celebrant during this time.

You will find the celebrant schedule outlined below:

October 2022

10/2 The Reverend Alison Dingley
10/9 The Reverend Franklin Chun
10/16 The Recverend Alison Dingley
10/23 The Reverend Alison Dingley
10/30 The Reverend Franklin Chun

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Altar Guild (CH) 10:00 AM Compassionate Friends (MR) 11:00 AM Tourist Wedding 6:30 PM Tongan Choir Rehearsal (PH)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM RBTL 9:00 AM Adult Discussion 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Family Sunday (Sunday School Student Reading Lesson) 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 2:30 PM Tongan Church (CH) 7:00 PM Daily Reflections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 1:00 PM Parish Staff Mtg. 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 5:30 PM Hula Class (PH) 7:30 PM Al-Anon (PH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Labyrinth Open 	<p>Yom Kippur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 AM SCS- Picture Day 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 10:00 AM Food Distribution 5:00 PM Na 'Ohana Meeting (SL) 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 6:00 PM Education for Ministry <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY RAY TAMURA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 AM SCS - Pictue Day 4:30 PM Farmers Market 6:15 PM Choir Practice (CH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHRIS HACSKAYLO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Tongan Bible Study (CH) 8:00 PM Strivers for Sobriety (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY HARRISON ISHIDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM RYSE Meeting (PH) 9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do Make Up Class (PH) 9:00 AM Altar Guild (CH) 11:00 AM Knitting Group 6:30 PM Tongan Choir Rehearsal (PH)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM RBTL 9:00 AM Adult Discussion 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 1:00 PM Prayer Chain Mtg. 2:30 PM Tongan Church (CH) 7:00 PM Daily Reflections 	<p>Columbus Day</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples' Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 7:30 PM Al-Anon (PH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Property Committee Mtg. <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY HELENA SCHAEFER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 10:00 AM Food Distribution 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 5:30 PM NAMI WOW (PH) 6:00 PM Education for Ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM I.H.S. Cooking (PH X KCH) 4:30 PM Farmers Market 6:15 PM Choir Practice (CH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JAESON TAMURA ERICA YAMAUCHI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 PM Strivers for Sobriety (PH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do Make Up Class (PG) 9:00 AM Altar Guild (CH) 10:00 AM Food Distribution 6:30 PM Tongan Choir Rehearsal (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY BONNIE RICE</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM RBTL 9:00 AM Adult Discussion 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 2:30 PM Tongan Church (CH) 7:00 PM Daily Reflections <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMELIA LEVY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 11:00 AM Tourist Photoshoot 1:00 PM Parish Staff Mtg. 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 5:30 PM Hula Class (PH) 7:30 PM Al-Anon (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY DANNY SCHOEN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM SCS Board Mtg. (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY TAU'EVA LINO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 10:00 AM Food Distribution 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 6:00 PM Education for Ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30 AM Interdominational Lunch (PH) 4:30 PM Farmers Market 6:15 PM Choir Practice (CH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY ANDREW CARPENTER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 PM Kūpuna Box 7:00 PM Tongan Bible Study (CH) 8:00 PM Strivers for Sobriety (PH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do Make Up Class (PG) 9:00 AM Altar Guild (CH) 6:30 PM Tongan Choir Rehearsal (PH)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM RBTL 9:00 AM Adult Discussion 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 2:30 PM Tongan Church (CH) 7:00 PM Daily Reflections 	<p>Diwali</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 5:30 PM Hula Class (PH) 7:30 PM Al-Anon (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE TOWN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Vestry Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 9:00 AM Yo! House Cooking (KCH) 10:00 AM Food Distribution 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 6:00 PM Education for Ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Farmers Market 6:15 PM Choir Practice (CH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 PM Strivers for Sobriety (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY HEW REYNOLDS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tae Kwon Do Make Up Class (PH) 9:00 AM Altar Guild (CH) 6:30 PM Tongan Choir Rehearsal (PH)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM RBTL 9:00 AM Adult Discussion 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 2:30 PM Tongan Church (CH) 7:00 PM Daily Reflections 	<p>Halloween</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM SCS Chapel 1:00 PM Parish Staff Mtg. 5:30 PM Tae Kwan Do (PG) 5:30 PM Hula Class (PH) 7:30 PM Al-Anon (PH) <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY KINGSLEY WONG</p>				<p>KEY: PH - Parish House KCH - Kitchen CH - Church PG - Playground MR - Music Room</p>	

St. Clement in the Past



(From an old photograph. Courtesy, Mrs. W. A. Wall)

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE CHURCH AS IT WAS BUILT

Before it was moved to the corner. This shows part of the garden planted by Canon Usborne



A TYPICAL SUNDAY CONGREGATION OF ST. CLEMENT'S

Including Rector, Choir, and many old and new parishioners, as they gathered before the Eleven o'Clock Service on All Saints' Day, 1936

FROM THE ARCHIVES

In preparing for the parish's 125th anniversary next year several people have been looking at the archives that Nellie McLaughlin so magnificently organized in 2009, and re-reading the church history she wrote in 1998, adding to an earlier history by Harriet K. Neal.

We've learned that COVID was not the first pandemic to cancel live worship at St. Clement's. In 1918 a world-wide flu epidemic caused the Territorial health department to ask that the parish suspend services. They didn't resume until 1920.

Several years later the parish faced an even worse crisis. A new rector, the Rev. William Ash-Everest, had what Neal describes as an "unfortunate" tenure at St. Clement's, and in 1928 the bishop removed him from the priesthood. That year the church was in debt and "showed a nearly 50 percent decrease in average attendance since 1926. The (women's) guild remained but the choir had almost disappeared. The vestry was discouraged." It wasn't until 1931 that the vestry found a new full-time rector, the Rev. Edward Tanner Brown, who breathed new life into the parish. He stayed at St. Clement's until 1948.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those who kept the faith and the church going during those difficult years: a strong Sunday school program and members of the parish who continued to be faithful witnesses to the love of Christ. Today, as in past times of difficulty and change, St. Clement's needs its members to not lose heart but step up and volunteer however they can, to ensure that our church and its ministries will flourish during this transition period. The wardens, vestry, staff, and search committee need your assistance and your prayers.

Kathleen Norris

Beth Fincke

SCHOOL SNAPSHOTS

School Days at St. Clement's



Friendly with the fish - A student in B1 observes the class fish, Bella, to make sure she is healthy and fed.



Making the count - Students in B2 get hands on with the numbers to show "How Many Handprints Tall, Am I?"



Fun in the Sun - Students in B3 enjoy sliding down the slide on a nice September morning.



The M&M's, Math and Musical Fun - The students of C2 learn math with the fun addition of music for a great activity with their teachers in Math Music Motion.



Dining Alfresco - Students of C1 enjoy eating their lunch outside their classroom, on a beautiful sunny day.

MONTHLY PARISH BRIEF

School News

- The School had a very successful Accreditation Team visit on Friday, September 9, 2022. They will know the final accreditation results in a few weeks.

Vestry News

- The Search Committee gathered via Zoom on September 19. The Committee reviewed the different sections of the parish profile and will be gathering information to update and revise various portions of the profile in the coming weeks.
- The Parish's internet connectivity will be upgraded to allow for better and more stable access for all of our users.
- Our delegates for the 54th Diocesan Convention are Mary Carpenter, Chaz Hill, Susan Palmore, Cecilia Fordham, Tau'eva Lino, and Carol Taylor Kim. Our alternates are Sione Lino and Beth Fincke.

OCTOBER 2022 VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th Sunday
Altar Guild					
8 AM	Sandy Souza	Sandy Souza	Pam Fern	Cecilia Fordham	Cecilia Fordham
10:15 AM	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke
Flowers	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke	Beth Fincke
Ushers					
8 AM	Sandy Souza	Sandy Souza	The Wongs	Sandy Souza	Sandy Souza
10:15 AM	Liz Baldwin Terry Ledford	Arthur Buto	Liz Baldwin	Arthur Buto Terry Ledford	Liz Baldwin Terry Ledford
Readers					
8 AM	Carol Taylor Kim	Susan Palmore	Pam Fern	Sandy Souza*	Sandy Souza
10:15 AM	Laurel Schoen* Matthew Chapman	Soane Lino	Beth Fincke	Kathleen Norris*	Kathleen Norris*

- * Laurel Schoen reading for 2nd service, 10/2/22, for Family Sunday.
- * SS will be unavailable on 10/23 so Martha Morgan will read on 10/23/22.
- * KN will be off island for the month of October (Leaving on 9/19). Mary Carpenter will read on 10/23/22.
- * KN will be off-island for the month of October. (Leaving Island on September 19.). Jane Anderson will read on 10/20/22 (5th Sunday).



JONATHAN KUTTAB

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FRIENDS OF SABEEL NORTH AMERICA

ST. CLEMENT, OCTOBER 16, 8:00 & 10:15 SERVICES

ON BEING A CHRISTIAN VOICE FOR PALESTINE:

THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE OF FRIENDS OF SABEEL NORTH AMERICA

Jonathan Kuttab's address to the congregation is an important follow up to the address given at St. Andrew's Cathedral on Saturday, Oct. 15. As Sabeel's sponsoring church in Hawaii, it gives us an opportunity to ask questions about the past and present difficulties for Christian & Muslim Palestinians from a Palestinian Christian activist's perspective and helps us become more effective friends and neighbors to our Palestinian sisters and brothers.

A brief history of St. Clement with SABEEL HI/FOSNA

St. Clement, through Global Ministries, has been working with other faith organizations since 2002, to advance Palestinian Liberation. We are the sponsoring church for FRIENDS OF SABEEL NORTH AMERICA since 2011, and work with other faith denominations, as well as JVP [Jewish Voice for Peace], and the Students and Faculty for a Free Palestine.

FOSNA SUPPORTS:

- **THE CALL OF Kairos Palestine to end Palestinian suffering.**
- **An end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine in accordance with international law and United Nations resolutions**
- **Equal rights and access to resources, such as land and water, for all inhabitants of the region, based on principles of social, economic, and political justice**
- **The right of return for all Palestinian refugees in accordance with UN. Resolution 194**
- **An end to U.S policies that support and perpetuate the occupation**
- **Active engagement in the campaign for boycott, divestment, and sanctions [BDS] against Israel**

St. Clement's Church invites you to

Donate & Volunteer at The Book & Treasure Sale



Sale on Nov. 12th, 9am-3pm

Donate items starting Nov. 6th

Sign up to volunteer



You may donate: Books of any kind in good condition
Treasures: Only items valued at \$5 and above. Knick knacks, gift items, treasures, purses, backpacks, toys, kitchen appliances, glassware, dishes, paintings
NO CLOTHES, please.

For More Information:
call the office at 808-955-7745

All proceeds will benefit
St. Clement's Church



OCTOBER AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY	MONDAY
Holy Eucharist 8AM and 10:15AM Adult Discussion 9AM Bible Study 9AM	Office Open 9AM to 4:30PM
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Office Open 9AM to 4:30PM	Office Open 9AM to 4:30PM Assistance Available 10AM to 12PM
THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Office Open 9AM to 4:30PM Farmers Market 4:30PM to 7PM	Office Open 9AM to 4:30PM Kūpuna Box (10/21) 12PM to 1PM
SATURDAY	SPECIAL EVENTS
Third Sat. (10/15) Food Distribution 10:00AM to 12:00PM	OFFICE CLOSED Indigenous Peoples Day Monday, 10/10