

Vol.91 No.9

THE PARISH OF ST. CLEMENT An Inclusive and Caring Christian Community

Ke 'Alemanaka

September 2020



Pictured above (L to R): Susan Palmore, Dana Anderson & Skip Adams



#### St. Clement's Food Distribution Statistics

On the third Saturday of each month St. Clement's gives bags of canned food (pictured on the right), and during COVID we have expanded our services. These bags of food are also available in the church office every Wednesday from 10am to noon for anyone who might need them.

Below you will find an outline of the number of people we served in July:

 # of Adults:
 196

 # of Children:
 74

 # of Households:
 101

\*Individuals that received food bags more than once were only counted once.

#### **Cooking for RYSE and YO! House**

St. Clement's has been involved in outreach with homeless youth in Hawaii for at least 15 years. We first started making chili and mac salad for the YO! House, a drop-in center in Waikiki. Then, two years ago, RYSE opened as a homeless shelter serving young people 24 hours a day and St. Clement's work increased. Before COVID we were making chili and mac salad for both places every month (pictured on the left). Unfortunately, we have missed a couple of months, but we are back at work again and hope to continue. The young people are still hungry and enjoy our food, especially the beautifully presented mac salad prepared by Beth Fincke. As always, we appreciate an extra pair of hands to help with cooking.

Not everyone can cook, but RYSE as a shelter welcomes donations of cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products. They also are always in need of food donations of any sort, especially protein. Thank you for your support.

Submitted by Jane Anderson



# Ke 'Alemanaka

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Rector: Rev. Heather Hill Priest Associate: Rev. George Clifford Curate: Rev. Ha'aheo Guanson Head of St. Clement's School: Jodi Yoshioka Director of Music: Karol Nowicki Organist: Mark Kennedy Interim Parish Secretary: Alofa Carpenter Sexton/Groundskeeper: Stan Ornellas Family Ministries: Michelle Comeau and Gail and Scott Suzuki-Jones

> Senior Warden: Michelle Comeau Junior Warden: Jose Henao Treasurer: Martha Morgan

#### Vestry

Mary Carpenter Helena Ishida Glenn Moir Holoua Stender

nter Chris Hacskaylo da Adrienne Lau ir Amy Schafer nder Cathy Overstreet Jane Anderson

#### **NEW OFFICE HOURS**

Due to the new government mandate

The church office will only be open on Wednesdays from 10am to noon to provide food and financial assistance

Items for Ke 'Alemanaka may be submitted to the Newsletter Editor, Arthur Buto

Phone: (808) 383-3930 Email (preferred): thebutos@yahoo.com

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE** 

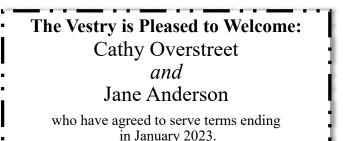
Wednesday, September 23, 2020



#### Hauʿoli la hanau to all those born in September

September 1	Bella Bell	
September 5	Ronan Amjadi-O'Shea	
September 6	Judith Gronna	
September 9	Ehulani Stender, Jr	
	Jodi Yoshioka	
September 12	Alex Goemans	
September 13	Emma Moore	
September 16	Blaine Rogers	
September 19	David Cicero	
September 21	Jean Ann Milnor	
	Grace Phillips	
September 22	Bridget Dung	
September 26	Noa Alo	
	MariJayne Nicholas	
September 27	Charlie Schlieman	
September 28	Karla Bee	
	Dorsey Gibson	
September 29	Auggie Chang-Stroman	
	Susan Palmore	

If we missed your birthday, please let the office know!



Ke 'Alemanaka

## Due to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, church services will be ONLY online for the month of September.

### **SUNDAYS**

Worship Services at 8AM & 10:15AM Meeting ID: 854 4414 6891 Password: 1515

#### Adult Discussion at 9AM Meeting ID: 854 4414 6891 Password: 1515

**Bible Study (RBTL) at 9AM** Meeting ID: 661 508 747 Password: 395117

#### TUESDAYS

Compline at 9PM Meeting ID: 823 5666 8373 Password: 1515

To join any service by phone call one of these numbers and enter the Meeting ID and password.

669 900 6833 253 215 8782 346 248 7799 929 436 2866

#### AUGUST ATTENDANCE TOTALS

Sunday Worship:

- 8AM services:
  - 80 attended via Zoom
- 10:15AM services:
  - 105 attended via Zoom

Tuesday Compline: 15 attended via Zoom

\*This count does not include Sunday, August 30th.

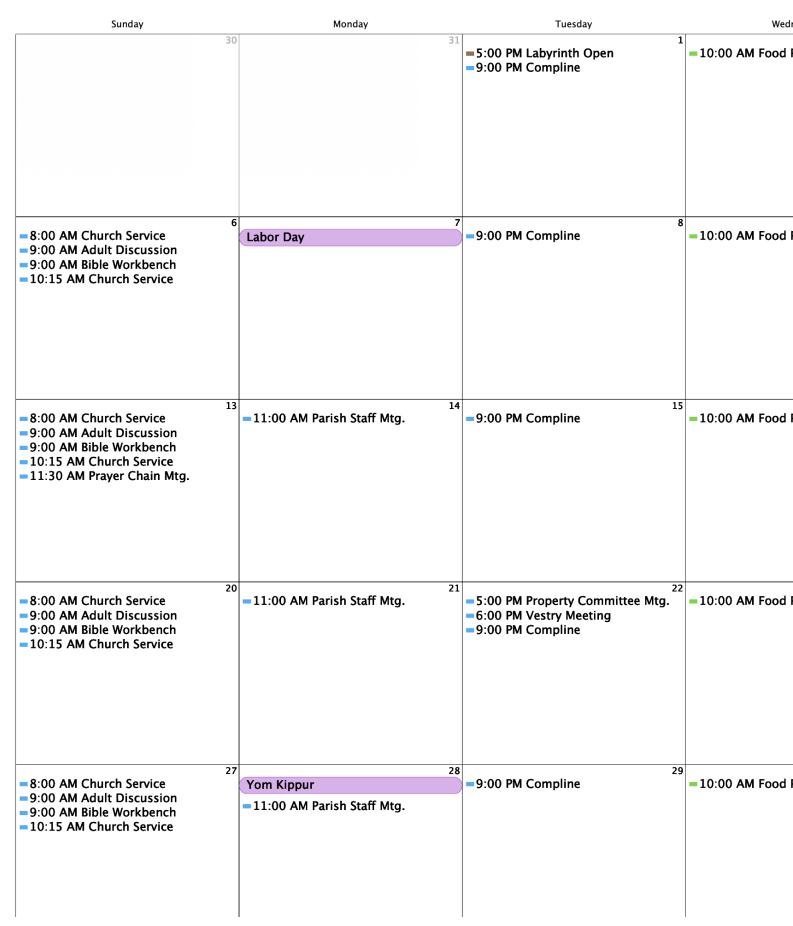
#### **MAHALO!**

- Mahalo to Jane Anderson, Beth Fincke, Dana Anderson, Susan Palmore and Skip Adams for preparing and delivering the macaroni salad and chili to both YO! House and RYSE in August.
- Mahalo to August's food distribution ministry crew for getting our grocery bags filled and handed out: Beth Fincke, Mary Carpenter, Holoua Stender, Pam McCoy, Pam Fern, Bonnie and Mike Town, their grandsons Jax and Thane, Alofa Carpenter and Jayson Harper.
- ★ Mahalo to Jane Anderson, Beth Fincke & Scott Suzuki-Jones for their newsletter submissions.





## September 2020



nesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pantry	<sup>2</sup> =4:30 PM Farmers Market	3 Clergy Sabbath	5
Pantry	9 =4:30 PM Farmers Market	10 Clergy Sabbath	1 12
Pantry	<sup>16</sup> = 4:30 PM Farmers Market	17 Clergy Sabbath	8 19 Rosh Hashanah - 9:00 AM Food Distribution
Pantry	<sup>23</sup> = 4:30 PM Farmers Market	24 Clergy Sabbath	5 26
Pantry	30	1	2





St. Clement's Preschool opened for their Fall semester on August 17 with masks, social distancing and extra cleaning! Beginning August 31, most students will be distance-learning from their computers at home.













September 2020













### A View from the Pew

"Then Peter said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times. Instead, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'"

#### Matthew 18:21-22



It is amazing how much we are misinformed and, as a result, how much we misunderstand. Everyday, our politicians, whether reactionary, conservative, centrist, liberal, progressive or radical, intentionally or mistakenly misinform us, we their own constituents. Likewise, the media. In order to report to their audiences what we want to hear, as opposed to what we need to know, or to simply report a story before a competitor does, it will intentionally or mistakenly misinform us, we their audiences. Religions are often no different. In order to explain to us what our religious leaders and educators believe we should think, as opposed to what we might conclude, great energy has been spent over the millennia to translate Holy scriptures in such as a manner as to convince, as well as nuanced in such way as to misinform, unwittingly or by design, we their flock.

Take the above verse from the Gospel According to Matthew. It seems innocuous enough. Wrong. To begin with, not only does the original Greek in which it was written make no mention of a *church*, there was no Christian *church* at this time in history as we understand the notion. Christianity as a distinct religion did not yet exist. It was a sect, a subset of Judaism, and not a very welcome one. To be sure, there were informal small meetings in the homes of believers and sympathizers. Yes, there were large gatherings along sea shores and river banks, and at the base of mountains. Yet, the *Nazarenes*, the moniker at the time given to the seekers and followers of Jesus of Nazareth, had no formal *houses of worship* in which to gather. They were considered to be heretics, at best misguided, and they were not welcome in the synagogues of the day.

Then there is *sins*. I am always astonished at how loosely we Christians translate words into our Holy Scriptures to mean *sin*, when most of us have little to no idea what *sin* means. It does not mean doing or saying something terrible or otherwise evil. It means to be *off the mark*, that is doing, saying or understanding something in error, something that, in the context of Judaism and later Christianity, distances us from God, if not separates us altogether. In its original Greek, *sins* in this verse was literally written as, *miss the mark* and, when put in the context of the verse, comes to mean *misunderstand*, in this case Peter. In other words, the *sins* Peter is referring to is that of a seeker or a follower of Jesus who is missing the point, the *mark*, does not or refuses to understand, thus creating a distance, and probably a very disturbing one, between them and Peter.

How about another member? I would love to meet the translator if only to scream outrage in their presence. In its original Greek, the word choices by the author of this verse is *a brother*. To put it another way, Peter is referring to someone who is not just a seeker of Jesus, but a follower, an intimate within the sect, part of their spiritual family. More precisely, Peter is very concerned about a Nazarene who may even be a disciple, a serious student of Jesus' who is seriously missing the point. In fact, so seriously is the brother off the mark, that Peter has gone to Jesus to ask just how many times must he *forgive* his transgression. Be that as it may, when we think of *forgive*, we think of something very awful that requires forgiveness when, if we understood the true meaning of the word, we would think very differently.

In the original Hebrew, to *forgive* means *to release*, such as to let go of an arrow nocked to a bow so it may fly to its mark, or to discharge someone from the burden of a debt. In the original Greek, *forgive* in this verse was written as, *to send forth*. In the parlance of the time, Peter was asking Jesus whether he should allow the brother to continue or even progress as a follower, possibly a disciple in their community. More precisely, Peter wanted to know how much longer Jesus expected him to put up with the brother and his inability or refusal to understand what was expected of him, asking *"as many as seven times?"* No doubt to Peter's dismay, Jesus famously replied, *"Not seven times. Instead, I tell you, seventy-seven times."* In no uncertain terms, Jesus was telling the *rock*, the foundation of the future Christian Church, that he/we must never give up on a fellow *brother*, or *sister*, of faith.

Despite its conventional misinterpretation and, as result, misunderstanding, Peter is not talking about a grave transgression, nor is Jesus telling Peter that, as a Nazarene cum Christian, he must tolerate dreadful abuse. On the contrary, Peter is asking how long must he tolerate a brother's mistakes, and Jesus is saying that, as he famously inspired the English poet, Alexander Pope, seventeen centuries later, *"to err is human, to forgive is divine."* 

"Then Peter said to him, 'Lord, if **a brother misses the mark**, how often should I **send him forth**? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times. Instead, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'"

Matthew 18:21-22

~~ Submitted by Scott Suzuki-Jones



Episcopal An Inclusive and Caring Christian Community

1515 Wilder Avenue Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822-4614

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sundays at 8AM & 10:15AM ONLY via Zoom 10am to 12pm Food Pantry hours <u>Worship Services</u> Tuesdays at 9PM Compline via Zoom \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 4:30 pm Farmers Market Wednesdays Datebook Thursdays

The office food pantry is open on Wednesdays from 10 am to Noon **ONLY**. New Office Food Pantry Hours