



Aloha Akua

Change is in the wind. From the election of a new President (only the third time I know of in our history where a sitting president was defeated), to a significant reorganization of the way we will do business in the future - one thing is certain - the next few years will be interesting.

For nine days in mid-July, 1,200 delegates (pastors and lay people) met in Houston to discuss, argue, vote and discuss some more. Here is a wiki-summary:

The major focus of this Synodical Convention was the reorganization of the way we do things. We have eliminated most of the traditional program boards and either given their tasks over to the Districts or eliminated them all together. We will still have a Board for Missions, which will oversee both national and international missions, but the synodical office will see a big reduction in both people and responsibility.

In the future, each congregation will directly participate in the election of Synod President. The President-elect will have some influence in selecting nominees for 1st Vice President and each region will have direct representation through newly created Regional Vice Presidents. Instead of being elected by the Convention, the Synod Treasurer will be appointed by the Board of Directors. The purpose and

boundaries of our Synod's Districts will be the focus of a Task Force that will meet and make recommendations at the next Convention in 2013.

Reverend Matt Harrison, currently the director of the Board for Human Care, was elected as our new President. Four other current members of the Praesidium were defeated in their bid for re-election. Even the Board of Directors experienced a turnover of membership.

While the Bishop of the ELCA (the other major Lutheran body in the U.S.) asked for Lutheran unity despite their recent departure from Biblical teachings on major issues, the convention reaffirmed the differences in teaching and practice and asked for specific principles be drafted for only limited cooperation in areas of human care and crisis ministry.

Two of the most powerful moments came when the leadership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti brought thanks for the ministry of the LCMS before and after the devastating earthquake and when several of our military chaplains' dogtags spoke of the struggles and pains our men and women in the Armed Forces are experiencing and what they were doing to meet the need.

Watch for the official summary - we'll put it up on the board in the narthex.

*Me Ke Aloha,
Pastor*

Wittenberg Door

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OUR SAVIOR'S WEEK...

Week of July 25th

Sunday 1:30pm Trukese Worship
6:00pm Common Ground
Saturday 7:45am Elders Meeting
3:00pm Worship Team
5:00pm Young Adults

Week of August 1st

Sunday 1:30pm Trukese Worship
6:00pm Common Ground
Saturday 3:00pm Worship Team
5:00pm Young Adults



SUNDAY FOR YOUTH & KIDS FaithIsland for Preschool - 4th Grade

Meet in the FaithIsland room
O.A.S.I.S. (Jr Hi) and **Deep Dive**
(Sr Hi) meet at the Mission Center
(at the top of the parking lot)



L.I.F.E.
Living In Focus
Everyday

Sunday Adult Bible Class @ 9:37

THE SANCTUARY & NARTHEX LIGHTS... were replaced with Super T8 fixtures. Mahalo to the Leadership Council, Brian Poziembo and Energy Industries for making this happen. We are now 100% energy efficient in our lighting.

FALL BIBLE STUDIES... we would love to have three or four new Bible study groups beginning in September. The groups would meet for seven weeks on a date of their choosing. You only need a TV and DVD player and a willingness to ask a few questions. The study is called "Crazy Love" and is hosted by Francis Chan. If you would be willing to open your home up - talk to Pastor!

OFFERINGS VIA CREDIT CARD...



You may now use your MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Discover or Debit Card (as well as an EFT directly from your checking account) for your offerings. Go online at: www.oursaviorhawaii.com, click on the DONATE button, create an account and then set up a one-time donation or an ongoing gift to support Our Savior's ministry. The secure service is provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans through Vanco LLC.