



Aloha ke Akua

Reformations are funny things. We put up with something far longer than we should. At first we're afraid of saying something - after all, smart people are leading us. Then we complain, thinking someone else will fix what's wrong. Then we forget that it's wrong and just live with it.

It's not easy to change. Tod Bolsinger says "we're not afraid of change, we're afraid of loss" and he's right. The truth is, we rarely change until we are forced to - when we've run out of options to accept, endure or ignore what's happening. And often this means we are unhappy but aren't sure why because we forgot the way it should be.

In 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 theses - articles for debate - on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. He had been struggling for years with his inability to please God - and only through a series of events that led him deeper and deeper into the Bible - did he finally discover it was his view of God that was wrong.

A.W. Tozer said, "what comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." And if what we think about God is wrong???

Luther thought God was always angry at him - and no matter what he did, it would never be enough. Luther was only partly right. We can never do enough to save ourselves. But the part he didn't have right is the most important part. *"It is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not your work it is the gift of God."* St. Paul wrote those words, not just to the church in Ephesus but also to Luther and the rest of us.

The church is made up of sinners - and that means it doesn't take much for one person to lead us all astray. But God has promised there will always be someone or a bunch of someones - who will keep pointing us home, reminding us what is right - and helping us deal with the loss we experience.

Those people aren't perfect - (just like Martin Luther wasn't perfect) - but they don't need to be. God is the one who we are following. The ones He gives us to point the way home might be faded, bent and rusty - but as long as they're pointing the way home - that's all we need.

*Me Ke Aloha,
Pastor Mitch*

October 2024

Wittenberg Door

A monthly publication of
Our Savior Lutheran Church
98-1098 Moanalua Road
Aiea, Hawaii 96701
Phone: 808.488.3654
Sunday Worship: 8:15am and 10:45am
Email: aloha@oursaviorhawaii.com
Website: oursaviorhawaii.com

OUR SAVIOR'S MONTH...

SUNDAYS

1:30pm Salem Nomwin Chuuk Service
4:00pm An Kraist Mwichefel Service
4:30pm OSHi Youth Group

WEDNESDAYS

8:00am School Chapel

THURSDAYS

5:00pm Worship Team
6:30pm Handbell Choir

Week beginning September 29th

Friday 7:00pm 20's/30's Bible Study

Week beginning October 6th

OSLS/Cross Academy on Fall Break

Tuesday 6:30am Smithy Men's Group
Saturday 8:00am Workday @ Church
2:00pm 20's/30's Bishop Museum

Week beginning October 13th

Saturday 9:00am LMCH Meeting

Week beginning October 20th

Tuesday 6:00pm Confirmation Class
Thursday 6:30am Smithys Men's Group
5:30pm Leadership Council
Saturday 9:00am Youth Car Wash

Week beginning October 27th

Sunday 4:30pm Fall Festival
Tuesday 11:00am Gerry Reese Memorial
Friday 7:00pm 20's/30's Bible Study

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

9:37-10:27am-ish

SANCTUARY: Classes for adults and Sr Hi

FaithIsland Room: PS - 8th Grade



**Sunday, October 27th,
4:30pm - 6:30pm.**

Brats, Hot Dogs, Bouncy House, Caricature Artist, Balloon Twister and lots of other games and fun (and it's free!)



**JASON GRAY IN
CONCERT...at Our
Savior, Sunday,
November 3 at both**

morning services and a 6:30pm concert. Jason's latest album, "Land of the Living" was released in 2023 and he just released a new children's book, "Sparrows." Tickets are required (they are free) so get yours today at: oursaviorhawaii.com



**Saturday, October 12,
8am - Noon** Everyone is welcome and there is always something to do!

MEN'S GROUP (Smithys) October 8th & 22nd at 6:30am at the Mission Center.



Saturday, October 26th, 9am - Noon to help the youth group get to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans the Summer of 2025.



Island 20&30s seeks to connect adults in their 20s and 30s from Lutheran congregations across Oahu. See Kayla for more info!

Bible Study October 4th @ 7pm
Bishop Museum October 12th @ 2pm



for more information:
808.488.0000

or go to
oursaviorlutheralschool.org

HANDBELL CHOIR...Thursdays, 6:30pm. For more information contact Nancy Gowen:
worship@oursaviorhawaii.com

USHERS, GREETERS, ACOLYTES AND SO MUCH MORE...could you lend a hand, your brain, your feet, or voice? We'd love to have you join our team. If you'd like to know more about all the different service opportunities, call or e-mail Pastor Mitch or DCE Kayla.



NEW TO THE CHURCH OR COMMUNITY?

We'd love to get to know you and answer your questions. Call

808.488.3654, stop by the office (on Koauka Street) or e-mail aloha@oursaviorhawaii.com.



ONLINE ACCESS

oursaviorhawaii.com

Access the latest news and notes 24 hours a day along with the calendar and forms to download.

Online Worship Services are posted on Saturday evening and available 24/7.

Bible Studies...Canoeing the Mountains; Healing, Wholeness and the Scriptures and The Psalms.

Sunday School...we're exploring stories from the Old Testament.

Devotions and Worthwhile Things (blogs and other resources)



4th Quarter Mission Project

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL... we're partnering with Heifer to purchase a few water buffalos, goats and chickens for a village that will receive training and assistance in creating a sustainable agricultural future.

heifer.org

Our Compassion Children are Justina Kulwa from Tanzania, Jony Enrique Tolentino from El Salvador, and Jamia from Bangladesh. We take a special calabash offering on the 2nd Sunday of the month to help support them. If you would like to know more about them, there is a display at the back of the sanctuary. compassion.com



IKE LOA

(to seek wisdom)

The phone calls keep coming. The caller says their organization is relying on us - and if we don't give - well, they leave that terrible thought to our imagination.

How do you know who to give to and how much you should give and whether or not the people you entrust your money to will use it to do good and not evil?

Many of the organizations that call you are paid for making those phone calls - and that means your giving is immediately diluted (as much as 50%). We know the Bible tells us that generosity is a gift - something all of us have to one extent or another. We need to give - but making sure we give to those who need our help and will use it wisely is our responsibility.

Search your heart. Decide where your passion is. Then make a plan by doing your research (CharityNavigator.org is one site you can use). That way you know your gift will be used to change lives in line with something you believe in!



ONLINE OFFERINGS via CREDIT CARD OR EFT

www.oursaviorhawaii.com

Click on the ONLINE GIVING button and follow the instructions for giving through Vision2 or VANCO.



OSLC is registered to receive your **Thrivent Choice Dollars**.

STUDENT MINISTRY

For more information on all activities:
e-mail: kayla@oursaviorhawaii.com
or **call Kayla** at 808.488.3654



Sunday School for PS - 8th Grade
9:37am in the FaithIsland Room

Youth Group for 6th-12th Grade
Sundays from 4:30-6pm
at the Mission Center

2025 LCMS Youth Gathering

Calling 8th-12th graders as we gear up for the Gathering next summer in New Orleans where we'll join 20,000 other high school students from all over the world!

Registration is due October 20th!
See DCE Kayla for more info!



Confirmation Classes

If you are in the 5th - 8th grade and haven't been confirmed (or taken first communion) talk to DCE Kayla or Pastor.

October 22nd at 6pm
(dinner is provided)



Finances as of August...

Offerings: \$204,708.62

Expenses: \$201,807.31

Difference: + \$2,901.31

(Thank You !)