



Aloha Ke Akua

What good is the church?

There are a million different answers, only one matters. If you are a believer - you know the church is God's chosen community by which He does His work. The church is broken and often heads in the wrong direction, but God has not given up on it yet - nor will He according to the Book of Revelation.

When I was a kid, my uncle had an old Ford Model T truck sitting at his ranch. The first time I saw it, it was still in pretty good shape. By the time I got to high school, it needed some work; but I could easily imagine it with a new paint job, Boss 351 under the hood and some shiny chrome wheels. I asked my uncle if I could have it. He said maybe - someday (but not that day).

As the years went by, the weeds grew up around it, the rust and weather claimed the tires, seats and all the other soft materials and a few chickens took up residence in the cab. The last time I saw it - the engine had fallen out, the windows were broken and there were more than a few chickens in what was left of the cab. That was the day we went to tell Aunt Eileen how sorry we

were that Uncle Earl had died. I took a long glance as we drove out that day - knowing my aunt couldn't keep the ranch up by herself and would have to sell it - and she did, Model T and all.

A few years later, I saw a cherry Model T truck in a parking lot in Cherry Creek. What really caught my eye was the "Three Lazy D" on the hood - which was the name of my uncle's ranch. I thought it was too much of a coincidence, so I walked up and asked the driver where he got it. He said, "I bought a ranch out in Parker, and it came with it - took me a few years to fix it up - but it was worth it."

The church is a lot like that old Model T. It has a lot of potential - but only if you are willing to see past the weeds, the chickens and the rust. God didn't promise you a perfect place filled with perfect people - He promised you a community of people who should be willing to accept you and any "rust, chickens or weeds" that might be part of your life - because their life is filled with the same things.

So what good is the church? It really does depend on what you see in it - and whether or not you're willing to put a little work in.

*Me Ke Aloha,
Pastor Mitch*

September 2024

Wittenberg Door

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Our Savior Lutheran Church
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Aiea, Hawaii 96701
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Sunday Worship: 8:15am and 10:45am
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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 1st

Monday Church Office Closed
Tuesday 6:30pm Book Club
Friday 7:00pm 20's/30's Bible Study

Week beginning September 8th

Tuesday 6:30am Smithy Men's Group
Saturday 9:00am Diamond Head Hike

Week beginning September 15th

Tuesday 6:30pm Book Club
Thursday 7:00pm 20's/30's Trivia Night
Saturday 8:00am Workday @ Church

Week beginning September 22nd

Tuesday 6:30am Smithys Men's Group
6:00pm Confirmation Class
Saturday 9-12pm Car Wash

Week beginning September 29th

Tuesday 6:30am Smithys Mens' Group

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

9:37-10:27am-ish

SANCTUARY: Classes for adults and Sr Hi

FaithIsland Room: PS - 8th Grade



Book Club Series... we're exploring Kyle Idleman's "Not a Fan" September 3rd & 17th @ 6:30p.m. in the Narthex



TAKE A HIKE... Saturday, September 14th, 9am. Diamond Head. It's family-friendly ~2 miles out and back.

MEN'S GROUP (Smithys) September 10 and 24th at 6:30am in the Conference Room. Join us for a light breakfast, prayer and fellowship.



Saturday, September 21, 8am - Noon
Everyone is welcome.

JASON GRAY IN CONCERT...at Our Savior, Sunday, November 3 at both morning services and at 6:30pm. You don't want to miss this special evening!



Saturday, September 28th, 9am - Noon to help the youth group get to

the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans the Summer of 2025. Get your car washed or give us a hand!



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

Bible Study September 6th @ 7pm
Trivia Night September 19th @ 7pm



We're back to school!

for more information:

808.488.0000 or go to oursaviorlutherschool.org

HANDBELL CHOIR...Thursdays, 6:30pm beginning September 5th. 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 following the lectionary.

Devotions and Worthwhile Things (blogs and other resources)



3rd Quarter Mission Project

HAWAII FOODBANK...partners with more than 200 agencies across the islands to "nourish ohana today and work to end hunger tomorrow." hawaiifoodbank.org

TON OF RICE CHALLENGE... whatever you donate - Pastor will match - September 1 - 30th.

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 "Altar" is the big table looking thing under the cross at the front of the church. In the Old Testament, God commanded Moses to place a table in the worship space with a special bread (the Bread of Presence) on it. The table and bread symbolized the feast that would take place when all of God's people were finally gathered together in heaven.

Some churches have altars made of glass or marble or covered in gold. Ours is made of Hawaiian Sandstone. There's a church in Texas whose altar is held up by two golden angels - there is also a church up the road at Halawa prison that uses a folding table for the altar.

Christians all around the world gather around their altar as God's family to celebrate His Holy Meal of forgiveness. The table is the central part of our sanctuary to remind us of God's sacrifice, His love and that we are all His children. The table is God's way of bringing us all together as a family.



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 Meeting on September 15 at 4:30pm.



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.

September 24th at 6pm (dinner is provided)



Finances as of July...

Offerings: \$180,351.53

Expenses: \$180,204.83

Difference: + \$146.70

(Thank You !)