

Connecting people to Jesus

The Good News



Newsletter of **Our Redeemer** Lutheran Church and Schools *Honolulu, Hawaii*

Thoughts and Ponderings from Pastor...

As I sit here at my desk thinking about the upcoming Christmas Season through the wonderful gift of music I have blaring through my computer...the musical line of Andy Williams...It's the most wonderful time of the year...is ringing out loud and clear.

But that got me thinking...is it...the most wonderful time of the year?

Not quite sure where it all came from...but I have noticed that there is a lot of depressing Christmas songs out there in CD-land!

One can make quite a play list...including songs about broken relationships...Fairy Tale of New York (Irish Tenors)...Santa Can't Stay (Dwight Yoakam)...Lonely Christmas Call (George Jones)...or songs about impoverished children skipped by Santa...Will Santa come to Shanty Town (Eddie Arnold)...The Little Boy that Santa Claus Forgot (Nat King Cole)...or there are those about substance abuse such as...Please Dad, Don't get Drunk This Christmas (John Denver)...or about war...Christmas In The Trenches (John McDermott)...loneliness...First Christmas Away From Home (Stan Rogers)...Christmas in Prison (John Prine)...and of course...dying loved ones...The Christmas Shoes (Newsong).

Why subject ourselves to such a bleak series of songs during this most wonderful time of the year? Maybe the same reason why Johnny Cash wore black...as a way of reminding ourselves of all the pain in the world.

That is an important concept at Christmas...because the pain in the world is why Jesus came. Jesus came to us because this is a world of brokenness and poverty...a world of war and loneliness...a world in which substance abuse happens...and people find themselves far away from home.

It's a measure of His love that He was willing to come into this broken, sinful world of ours...for poor, ornery people like you and like I...as a classic Christmas song says (I Wonder As I Wander).

He did not come to a tinsel Fairyland...but He came into this messed-up land where we live. In fact...He LEFT a tinsel Fairyland...heaven itself

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Bible Class & Fellowship at Our Redeemer

Worship with communion: Sunday, 9 am

Adult Bible Class: Sunday, 10:30 am, in the auditorium

Sunday School: 10:30 am, in the Aloha Room

Wednesday Bible Class: 10 am, in the Aloha Room

LWML Bible Study: 3rd Thursday of the Month, 6:30 pm

Japanese Language Fellowship and Bible Study: 1st Sunday of the Month

The Men's Fellowship: Saturday, 8 am, at the Waioli Tea Room

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Pastor Bill Carney

Music Director The Rev. Karl Bachman

Secretary Tawny Starritt

Business Manager Jerry Sobieski

President Lester Pelletier • **Vice President**

Michael Standefer • **Secretary** Ruth Crockett •

Treasurer Stephen Okumura • **Deacons** William

Schriefer • David Lau • Richard Thompson •

Fellowship Peggy Pridgeon • **Parish Education**

Nellie Miller • **Stewardship** Clarence DeLude •

Property Management Paul Oliver • **Education**

Peter Tirbak

Our Redeemer Lutheran School

Principal BonnieJo Alle

Secretary Holly Maertens

Administrative Assistant Carolyn Villamor

Admissions Director Lea Dominici

Office Manager Lower Campus Karin Ito

Music Allen Bauchle • **Art** Heidi Shiozaki •

Athletics William Schriefer • **Computer** Michelle

Stevens • **Science** Karyn Herrmann • **Preschool**

Nancy Schultz • **Kindergarten** Michele Zane •

1st Grade Wyndy Quandt • **2nd Grade/Choir**

Christine Eilers • **3rd Grade** Nicole Nolting • **4th**

Grade Tim Martin • **5th Grade** Shelly Mecum •

6th Grade/Language Arts William Schriefer •

7th Grade/Social Studies Lorine Pelletier • **8th**

Grade/Mathematics Kristy Schroppe • **2 year**

olds Mei Chun • **3 year olds** Carol Huth • **4 year**

olds & Lead Teacher Jessica Guillemette •

Assistants Sharilyn Garcia, Lauren George,

Yong Hong Hsu, Annie Huang, Tania Madrona

After School Teacher Espineta Cabatay

Lutheran High School of Hawaii

Acting Principal Daryl Utsumi

Admissions / Admin. Ass't Lea Dominici

Business Officer Tinker Eddinger

Academic Dean Dr. Frank Lutz • **Dean of**

Students Daryl Utsumi • **Alumni Coordinator**

Ruth Crockett • **Athletic Director** Deems Utsumi

• **Director of Student Activities** Marcy Reginelli

• **College and Career Counselor** Ruth Crockett

• **Art** Marcy Reginelli • **Biology** Sarah Johnson •

Chemistry Dr. Frank Lutz • **Christian Life**

Pastor Bill Carney • Emily Meier • Nelda

Peterson • **Computer** Pete Rappeline • **Earth**

Science Dr. Frank Lutz • **English** Angela

Vasquez • Lori Bland • Mary Murphy • **Health**

Lori Bland • **Home Economics** Lea Dominici •

Hula Tom Yamamoto • **Japanese** Deems

Utsumi • **Journalism** Daryl Utsumi • **Librarian**

Ruth Crockett • **Marine Biology** Sarah Johnson

• **Mathematics** Pete Rappeline • Sarah Johnson

• Rich Kodama • **Music** Angela Vasquez •

Oceanography Sarah Johnson • **Physical**

Education Rich Kodama • **Physics** Dr. Frank

Lutz • **Social Studies** Daryl Utsumi • Lori Bland

• Pete Rappeline • **Spanish** Emily Meier •

String Ensemble Duane White • **Yearbook**

Deems Utsumi

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and all its splendor...to come to this sin-darkened world of ours. That took a lot of love. So oddly enough...this depressing Christmas Song play-list underscores the love of God in Jesus.

It is also a way of reminding us that...not everyone's life is 'apple-pie happy' the way it should be. For many...Christmas is a very sad time. Its joyous atmosphere simply underlines melancholy. We want to remember people who are down at Christmas...and ask God's blessings upon them...and help them as God gives us the opportunity. This is why that on Wednesday evening, December 21st, we will have a special Midweek Advent Service...look for more details in this Newsletter!

Even in our depressing songs...hope often breaks through. The child whose mother is dying in Christmas Shoes knows that she is going to a better place in heaven. The British soldier in Christmas in the Trenches experiences Yuletide comradeship with his German foes.

Both these songs cause us to bawl our eyes out...but they are not tears of hopelessness or despair. Rather...the tears celebrate how God can be present even in desperate situations of conflict and loss. And isn't that a key part of the joy of Christmas?

If you think our fondness for depressing Christmas songs is a little odd...consider this...a lot of Christmas songs that we THINK are happy...really are not!

The three best non-religious Christmas songs are...I'll Be Home For Christmas...Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas...and...White Christmas.

These songs are not depressing like...The Little Boy That Santa Claus Forgot...or...Please Dad, Don't Get Drunk This Christmas. But they do share a melancholy theme...dreaming about something that you do not have. I'm dreaming of a white Christmas...I'll be home for Christmas...of only in my dream...Next year all our troubles will be far away.

They all express unfulfilled yearning. The most obvious reason for this yearning is the fact that these songs were written during...when???...World War II...when lots of people were separated from home and loved ones.

But there may be another factor here...when Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas was presented to film director Vincente Minnelli...the song had this line...Someday soon we all will be together if the Lord allows.

The Good News is also available online at www.orlc-hawaii.org.

Minnelli thought the reference to Lord was too religious...so he asked the songwriters to change it. They substituted fates instead. Ironic...a Christmas song being scrubbed because of religion!

So maybe...that is why these songs are a little depressing...and have such a sense of unfulfilled longing...because they try to celebrate Christmas without Jesus...and there is always going to be a bit of emptiness when people do that.

Does that mean we should not sing or listen to these songs? On the contrary...they remind us of the longing that we all have...a longing for home...a longing for a place we have lost...a longing...ultimately...for Eden...the home with God that the human race lost because of sin.

When I dream of the White Christmas...when I long to be Home For Christmas...when I pine for that time when we will be all together...I am really yearning for Eden...and my true home in heaven.

And the Little Lord Jesus we sing about...came to bring us back to our lost home with God. Our Eastern Orthodox friends sing this in their Christmas liturgy...The angel with the flaming sword withdraws from the gates of Eden, and I enter into Paradise and eat from the Tree of Life.

As we enjoy White Christmas...and all the others...let us remember that our Christmas-time longing for home is fulfilled...because Jesus left His home in heaven to bring us home to God!

SO...whatever your Christmas play list is of your Iphone or Ipod...I pray that this most wonderful time on the year will bring you joy...knowing that Jesus has come to take on Himself the negative things in this world...and to bring to us the beautiful peace of God that passes all understanding.

Just my Thoughts and Ponderings!

Pastor
Luke 1;37



**News Items
Offering
Financial
Report for
October 2011**

Total offering
for October 2011 (5 Sundays) \$15,365.00;
Special offering – Building Fund \$35.00

Memorial Gifts were received in memory of George Kunz. Diana Kunz (as was the wish of George) had asked that memorial gifts be used for the purchase of a new flagon (vessel used to hold the communion wine). Gifts totaling \$1,125.00 were received in October from: Ms. Nancy Beadle; Mrs. Marjorie Sahlhoff; Dr. and Mrs. Duane Beringer; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sahlhoff; Mrs. Ruth Crockett; Mr. and Mrs. William Artis; Mr. and Mrs. David Lau; Mr. and Mrs. Adam Beery; Mr. and Mrs. Lester Pelletier; Mr. and Mrs. Alan Choi; Nelda Peterson; Ms. Candace Bowes Mathes; Ms. Peggy Pidgeon; Ms. Denise Sanchez; Mrs. Christobel Sanders; Mr. and Mrs. Hideo Yoza; and Mrs. Sharon Shinno.

Longest Night Service...

Did You Know... Christmas can be a painful time for some people? It may be the first Christmas without a loved one...or beloved friend who has recently died...or...it may be a time that has always been difficult for you.

It is so true...our spirits sink, as the days grow shorter. We feel the darkness growing deeper around us. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us.

On Wednesday, December 21st, come join us in sharing and hearing prayers, Scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn...for those who struggle...and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.

This service is not only for those of our 'ohana that have a difficult time at this most wonderful time of the year...but for everyone...as we celebrate the reason Jesus came to us at Bethlehem.

Please...bring your friends...and join us.

Bible Study Opportunities...

We now have 2 Bible Study opportunities...and one on the way...here at Our Redeemer!

On Sunday mornings after worship we are finishing up the Book of Galatians and will be starting another wonderful study real soon!

On Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in the Aloha Room we are studying the Book of Romans.

AND...as we turn into 2012...we will be beginning a new and exciting Young Adult Bible Study...for all our young adults out there!

What's exciting about this new ministry is...first, another Bible Study(!)...but also an

opportunity for our young people to gather together and share. There is also the opportunity to bring a friend...and we will be inviting 'new friends' from across the street (U of H!!!).

So...please join us...because the more we are in the Word, the more the Word is in us! See you in class!

News from the Board of Directors

Pastor Carney reported the transfer in of the Carney family: himself, Donna, Heather and Thomas from Hope, Levittown, Pennsylvania. Kate and Emily Markert were transferred from Our Redeemer to Faith Lutheran Church, Vista, California. New members will be received on November 27, 2011.

Pastor will work with the other Lutheran congregations to have a link to Lutheran High School included on their websites.

Grades 7 and 8 were given permission to conduct a bake sale during the rummage sale on Saturday November 26, 2011. They are raising money to visit Washington, D.C.

Advent worship at church will be on Wed., Nov. 30, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 is the Our Redeemer Elementary School Christmas Program.

The Deacons will discuss the results of the second service survey with the directors.

The board must select a lay delegate to the April District Convention by Jan. 6.

Pastor and President Pelletier will draft a letter to the Honolulu Police Department to have on file in case it is necessary to remove homeless people who sleep on our grounds.

The money donated at Pastor's installation will be used for clearing away the problem with the microphone. Any money remaining will be given to St. Jude's Children's Hospital for Cancer Research.

Board members will be dedicated in early December.

It's the season for Handel's Messiah

Yes, on Sunday, December 4th at 7:00 p.m. the Central Union Church Oratorio Choir is again presenting Handel's Messiah. A special treat for us at Our Redeemer is that our own Rick Thompson will be in singing in the chorus for this inspiring Christmas musical event. Sangeet Gellhorn will conduct the Chamber Ensemble and

the Oratorio Choir. The performance is free but a freewill offering will be received. Arrive early for a good seat!

"On  the
Wilder
Side"

Dear Brothers
and Sisters in
Christ,
Can you feel it?
Christmas is in
the air! Actually,
for me it begins in

July, often times earlier.

And now---this exact moment, I am all consumed with the Spirit of Christmas. I get "Spirit Bumps" anticipating the celebration of the Birth of Jesus, my Lord and Savior.

Our Redeemer Lutheran School Students are in the midst of the Christmas Spirit. Our school ohana, in conjunction w/the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) participated in Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child."

Students brought in shoe boxes filled w/clothing, toys, crayons/pencils (and such), and personal care items for children Nepal.

The Christian Radio Station (Fish 95.5 FM) set a goal of receiving 1000 boxes by November 21, 2011. On Friday, (November 18, 2011) Mike and Rebecka Standefer, along with Principal Alle delivered 68 boxes to Fish Radio Network. This brought their total to 585 boxes. The remarkable thing is we collected the 68 boxes w/in one week's time.

Our School Theme this year is, "Equipped to Serve"---this is just one way we have served. (Scripture tells us, in the words of Jesus says, "Whenever you do for the least of my brothers, you do it for Me.")

The "S' Force will be selling miniature candy canes for .15 cents each. Students may purchase them to give to their classmates/teachers (even the principal). Proceeds from this event will go toward a projector for use in Chapel.

The first few days of December will be busy ones for the "Wilder Side." Events include: Friday, December 2, 2011 Free Dress, Students will donate \$3.00 for the privilege of dressing in their "civvies" (w/guidelines, of course). All proceeds will go toward the deferral of the Mamiya Theatre rental for our Christmas Program.

Later that evening, the "S" Force will sponsor an evening of ice skating for the ORLS Junior High Students. Oh what fun!

The Good News is also available online at www.orlc-hawaii.org.

December 3rd and 4th (Saturday and Sunday) at the Ala Moana Barnes and Noble Book Store, Our Redeemer will have a "Life is Beautiful Photograph Exhibition" This event is being coordinated by Fifth Grade Teacher (and Author) Shelly Mecum.

December 4th, Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades will participate in the 9:00 A.M. worship service at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

December 7th, Students in PreSchool through Eighth Grade will have our Christmas Program at Mamiya Theatre at 7:00 P.M. .

This year's Christmas Program is entitled "The Holiday Hero." It was written by Nicole Nolting. She and Kristy Schroppel are co-directors.

Christmas Recess begins on Monday, December 19th. School will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

"Ring the Bells
Ring the Bells
Let the whole world know
Christ was born in Bethlehem
Many Long Years ago!"

Have a Merry Christmas!
God's Peace & Aloha,

BonnieJo Alle
Principal
John 13:34 & 35

Life Is Beautiful Photo Exhibition

The children and their families will spend prayerful moments in the next two weeks in search of the myriad ways that LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL. They will photograph and write heartfelt reflections—together—as a family. Their work will be celebrated and exhibited at Barnes and Noble Book Store, Ala Moana on December 3rd and 4th.2011.

Our families will be speaking from 11:00-4:00 on both Saturday and Sunday. We invite you to attend the exhibition, which will be on display over the entire weekend. A portion of the proceeds from all sales will go to benefit our school. So come and do some Christmas Shopping and be sure to say Our Redeemer Lutheran School as you check out your purchases.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your support. .

BonnieJo Alle
Principal

from the Lion's Den

News from Lutheran High School Two thousand

years since Bethlehem first welcomed Jesus' birth:

The startling truth began to dawn that God had come to earth.

And as He grew and lived and taught a different way unfurled:

A way of joy and love and peace, a new start for the world!
Brian Hoare, 1999

Lutheran High School of Hawaii invites you to its Christmas celebration of song and dance, drama and fellowship. Come to Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church in Aina Haina (5339 Kalaniana'ole Highway) on Friday, December 9, 2011. The 'Ohana Christmas program, "The Angels Bring Good News," begins at 7:30 p.m.

We offer congratulations to (1) senior **Ka'eo-pu'uwai Kealoha-Lindsey** who qualified for the cross-country state tournament; (2) seniors **Mellorrie Gander, Simone Komine** and **Lana Kuhn**, part of the Pac-Five varsity squad, who placed third in the ILH cheerleading competition;* (3) sophomore **Aja Komine**, part of the Pac-Five junior varsity squad, who placed second in the ILH cheerleading competition; (4) seniors **Ka'eo-pu'uwai Kealoha-Lindsey** and **Christian Schroppel** and junior **Lynsey Pelletier** for winning their 1st round competition (against Waipahu High and St. Andrew's Priory) in the It's Academic Quiz Bowl program to be televised near the end of January. Lutheran High's team, coached by Dr. **Frank Lutz**, now enters the semifinals against 8 other local high schools that also won their 1st round. *The state cheerleading competition will be held at the Stan Sheriff on Sunday, December 4.

What does Christmas mean to Lutheran High School of Hawaii students?

Jesus' birth. Ryan, Grade 9

Giving. Jasmine, Grade 9

Singing Christmas carols...I love singing Christmas carols. Ricki, Grade 9

Spending time with family. Missie, Grade 10

Vacation from school. Jensen, Grade 10

Taking time to thank God for Jesus' birth. Amanda, Grade 10

It's my birthday! Also, seeing relatives I haven't seen for a while. Brandon, Grade 11

The Good News is also available online at www.orlc-hawaii.org.

Watching the Charlie Brown special every year. Gino, Grade 11

That Christmas feeling... Paul, Grade 11

Feeling warm inside. Christmas music. Nicole, Grade 12

Feasting and egg nog. Chris, Grade 12

Celebrating Jesus' birth, decorations, gifts. Lia, Grade 12

I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. Charles Dickens.

December 2011 Scripture Readings

Dec 4 - Second Sunday in Advent

[Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

[2 Peter 3:8-14](#)

[Mark 1:1-8](#)

Dec 11 - Third Sunday in Advent

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)

[1 Thess. 5:16-24](#)

[John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

Dec 18 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

[2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)

[Romans 16:26-38](#)

[Luke 1:26-38](#)

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve

[Isaiah 9:2-7](#)

[1 John 4:7-16](#)

[Luke 2:1-20](#)

Dec 25 - The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

[Psalm 98](#)

[Titus 3:4-7](#)

[Luke 2:1-20](#)

If you are using Microsoft Word and have an internet connection, you can read the text if you hold down the control key and click on the scripture reference – it is a hyperlink. If the link does not work, please copy the reference and visit <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/> Paste the reference in the Enter Passage box and select English Standard Version.

Lectionary summaries - Each week, LCMS Worship publishes Lectionary Summaries. Each essay provides a thematic summary of the readings for each Sunday and festival, as well as a

description of how the readings fit into the particular season of the Church Year, where appropriate. They will normally be posted two to four weeks in advance. Please visit: <http://www.lcms.org/page.aspx?pid=449>. In addition, if you sign up on myLCMS, you can receive email updates.

Here are lectionary summaries for December 4 and December 11:

The Second Sunday in Advent - You Are Prepared Through Repentance For The Coming Of The Lord

“The Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes *“proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Mark 1:4). As the Prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the Forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel, and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means *“the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together”* (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd *“will gather the lambs in His arms”* (Is. 40:11). He speaks *“tenderly to Jerusalem,”* and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises *“new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells”* (2 Pet. 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Pet. 3:14), because He *“is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance”* (2 Pet. 3:9).

The Third Sunday in Advent- The Coming Of The Christ Brings True Rejoicing In His Forgiveness

When he preaches repentance, John the Baptist points us to Christ Jesus. John was sent by God *“as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through him”* (John 1:7). He baptizes with water in order to *“make straight the way of the Lord,”* who shall redeem His people from their sins (John 1:23). That Lord Jesus *“who comes after”* John now stands among us and makes Himself known to us (John 1:26–27). He has been anointed by the Holy Spirit *“to bring good news to the poor”* and *“to bind up the brokenhearted”* (Is. 61:1). By the washing of the water with His Word and Spirit, He clothes His Church with *“the garments of salvation”* and adorns her with His own righteousness *“as a bride*

adorns herself with her jewels” (Is. 61:10). Therefore, we *“rejoice always”* in the Lord, *“pray without ceasing,”* and *“give thanks in all circumstances”* (1 Thess. 5:16–18). For *“the God of peace,”* who has called you by the Gospel, will surely *“sanctify you completely,”* so that *“your whole spirit and soul and body”* will *“be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Thess. 5:23–24).

Links

Sunday Scripture Readings:

<http://www.lcms.org/Document.fdoc?src=lcm&id=293>

Lectionary at lunch - lectures from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

<http://concordiatheology.org/lalp/> [Note the new link with new features]

Save the Date!

Wednesday December 7, – the Our Redeemer Lutheran School Christmas program "The Holiday Hero." At 7 PM at Mamiya Theater in Kaimuki. This year's Christmas Program was written by our very talented 3rd Grade Teacher, Nicole Nolting.

Music Survey Results

In October we conducted a congregation-wide survey to determine the interest in a voice choir and handbell choir at Our Redeemer Lutheran. Here are the results. Eleven people responded to the survey and by their overwhelming preference for Wednesday evening rehearsals we moved the rehearsal to Wednesday. We also moved the time to 6:30 p.m. in order to meet the needs of the singers. This made it possible for us to gain two new voices. In addition two more new voices joined for the fun of it and one person joined “short-term” to sing for Reformation and All Saints. I am sure the congregation has noticed the improvement in the total ensemble effect as a result. We now list a regular roster of eleven individuals in the choir, almost double from when we started in September.

What about the handbells? Six people want to ring in a handbell choir. Unfortunately five of those also sing in the voice choir. This means we have a scheduling challenge in front of us. Throughout the holidays we will be trying to figure out how to make this work without losing strength in the voice choir and possibly gaining a few more in the handbell choir. It would really be better to have eleven ringers in the handbell choir.

This is based on the number of bells we have and the optimum arrangement for ringing them. Think about ringing handbells with us. Please speak to Karl Bachman, Director of Music. 808-721-3468 or bachman@hawaii.rr.com.

Thank you to our choir regulars! Soprano: Peggy Pridgeon, Wendy Pung, Christobel Sanders, Sharon Shinno; Alto: Betsy Bartz, Emily Meier, Dayna Owskey, Lorine Pelletier; Tenor: Roger Koopman; Bass: Norman Gibson, Richard Thompson. Thank you also to our "occasionals" Kristy Schroppel and Richard Lachmann.

Karl D. Bachman, Director of Music

Elynore Fulton Hambleton



Ninety-one years ago, at midnight, February 18-19, Bain and Leah Fulton were blessed with their second daughter, Elynore. Her early days were spent in aviation-related activities as her dad was the mover and shaker bringing aviation to Akron, Ohio and where Elynore earned her pilot's license at

age 20 while attending the University of Akron. She married, moved to Canton where daughter, Leah Diane, was born. Mr. Hambleton served in the Pacific theater in WWII and on his return Mark Evan Hambleton was born.

In 1949, Mr. Hambleton's appraisal business brought him to Hawaii where the family attended Our Redeemer on their first Sunday. Diane graduated from Greenbrier Junior College and earned her degree from U of H., married Mac Lowson and had two children. Mark graduated from Punahou, attended Tufts University and U of H. Entering the Army, he elected to go to NCO school rather than OCS because he would get home sooner. While in training he received An Academic Award in 1969 and an Outstanding Fort Benning NCO award in 1970. He was killed in Vietnam after earning a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and an Air Medal with the usual others.

What makes Elynore an interesting conversationalist and a woman of the 21st Century? Maybe it's her involvement in a panoply of activities. Read her poetry, view her portraits and paintings of Island scenes and flowers and read the two books she wrote; the first when she was 81 - They Broke the Mold, a great

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read that chronicles her father's aviation activity in Akron and WWII. Her second is a delightful portrayal of original art and cleverly written poetry about those whose names are "Jack", and dedicated to her two great-grandsons named Jack.

Words, their use, their origins, their meanings have been her love. Her collection of books and dictionaries detailing language development is only exceeded in number by her collection of frogs of all kinds. Her daughter, Diane, founded two preschools in Lahaina and Sun Valley, is married to an Anglican Vicar and lives on the West coast. Grandson, (known as Hobbs) lives with his family in American Samoa and Annie with her family on Maui. Four great-grandchildren are a key to her happiness, positive outlook, optimism and long life.

Elynore has been a member of Our Redeemer for 52 years and served as parish secretary for 20 years where she was actively involved in Art and Drama. We are happy to have Elynore Fulton Hambleton as a part of our Ohana.

Why Send Your Child to a Lutheran School?

Here is a summary of reasons why you should send your child to a Lutheran elementary and high school.

Lutheran schools:

- are **driven by a commitment to the Gospel**
and focused on a mission of bringing hope and healing to students and their families.
- are **governed by board members who clearly understand their roles**
and focus on the vision and board policies that effectively govern the operation of the school.
- **meet or exceed state and national academic standards**
at all grade levels.
- help to **develop a minimum of 30 developmental assets in children.**
- have **educators who model visionary leadership.**
They practice stewardship of resources, build up others and empathize with others.
- have **educators who model servant leadership.**
Do those served grow as persons; do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely

themselves to become servants? (Robert Greenleaf)

- have **educators who model spiritual leadership.**

They study God's Word, share their personal faith story, apply Law and Gospel appropriately, exhibit a passion for ministry, act courageously, equip God's people for service, care for others, demonstrate integrity, and pray.

Lutheran Early Childhood Centers and Elementary Schools

More than 2,300 early childhood centers and preschools are operated by congregations and Christian day schools within The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. More than 129,000 children, ranging in age from infant/toddler to five years of age, are involved in these programs. Additionally, our congregations operate 945 elementary schools which serve 107,000 students. [Source: <http://www.lcms.org/page.aspx?pid=1163> [Retrieved November 29, 2011]]

Help Decorate For Christmas – Saturday December 3 at 9 AM

Each year as we put out the lights, the decorations, wreathes, and the nativity, we ask for help. We need people who can climb up on the roof. unstring lights, unwrap the nativity figures etc. If we have a good turn out, we will be finished by around 12 pm. Lunch will be served. Hope you can save the date. Talk with Nelda Peterson or Sharon Shinno for details.

River of Life December Needs

The River of Life Mission has always special needs at Christmas. The list doesn't change much. They are looking for T-shirts, underwear, socks etc for both men and women. Also popular at Christmas are personal care items for men and women plus for women such things as, wallets, purses, pens, costume jewelry, hair grooming items etc. A never ending need is always food of any kind. You have been so generous in the past. The Mission is very appreciative for all that you do to help the homeless and those hoping to avoid homelessness. Mahalo to all.

St. Olaf Christmas Festival Simulcast

Emily Shimkus will be performing in the St. Olaf Christmas Festival. It will be shown at over 360 theaters country-wide. In Honolulu it will be shown at the Dole Theaters tentatively on the 18th of December. The performance will be on the 1-4 of December. Pastor Shimkus and Bette are planning to attend the filming at St. Olaf. The St. Olaf College Chorus has been heralded for over 50 years as one of the finest in the US. You can google St. Olaf Christmas Festival and get the updated information as it gets posted.

Serving December 2011

WorshipCare: Primary: Sharon Shinno:
Secondary: As Needed

December 4th - The Second Sunday In Advent

Assistants: Turro Wongkaren; Richard Thompson

Ushers: Randy Spangler; Matthew Schlechte

Reading 1: [Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

Lector: Stephanie Spangler

Reading 2: [2 Peter 3:8-14](#)

Lector: Nellie Miller

Acolyte: Faith Kollien

December 11th - The Third Sunday In Advent

Assistants: Richard Thompson; Clarence Delude

Ushers: William Schriefer; Lester Pelletier

Reading 1: [Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)

Lector: Willie Williams

Reading 2: [1 Thess. 5:16-24](#)

Lector: Christobel Sanders

Acolyte: Troy Tirbak

December 18th - The Fourth Sunday In Advent

Assistants: Stephen Okumura; Sharon Shinno

Ushers: Matthew Schlechte; David Lau

Reading 1: [2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)

Lector: Sherry Spangler

Reading 2: [Romans 16:26-38](#)

Lector: Diana Kunz

Acolyte: Leilani Delude

December 24th - Christmas Eve

Assistants: Sharon Shinno; Stephen Okumura

Ushers: Lester Pelletier; Randy Spangler

Reading 1: [Isaiah 9:2-7](#)

Lector: Wendy Pung

Reading 2: [1 John 4:7-16](#)

Lector: Nellie Miller
Acolyte: Grant Kollien

December 25th - The Nativity of Our Lord

Assistants: Clarence Delude; Turro Wongkaren
Ushers: David Lau; William Schriefer
Reading 1: [Psalm 98](#)
Lector: Jennifer Oliver
Reading 2: [Titus 3:4-7](#)
Lector: Betty Beringer
Acolyte: Adam Quandt

How did the early American missionaries to Hawaii celebrate Christmas?

They didn't. They celebrated Independence Day and Thanksgiving, the principal American holidays in the early 1800s. Austere New England Puritans, they followed the Pilgrim thinking that ceremonies and holy days not clearly defined in the Bible should be ignored. The missionaries did, however, hold a Christmas "pot luck" dinner at Punahou School in 1847, the meal and a few speeches being the extent of the celebration and considered a truly memorable occasion by the hundred people in attendance.

Christmas was declared a national holiday in the Kingdom of Hawaii by King Kamehameha IV in 1862, when special church services were held by the Christian community. Stores started to display Christmas gifts, and church and school bazaars were held to raise money for worthy causes. The original greeting was "Aloha Karistimasa," with "Mele Kalikimaka" not coming into common use until the turn of the 20th century.

In 1874 King Kalakaua spent Christmas in America, in Washington, D. C., where he was hosted on December 22 at a lavish dinner in the White House given by President and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant. Here in Hawaii, neither he nor his sister and successor, Queen Liliuokalani, did much celebrating of the day. No mention has been found of decorations or special parties at Iolani Palace, and the queen barely mentions the day in her diaries although she did give gifts to a few friends. Yet, Mary Dominis, her future mother-in-law, held what is considered the first Christmas celebration in Hawaii as we know it today - with a decorated tree, gifts for children, and a Santa Claus - in 1858 in Washington Place, her home, followed by a church service the next morning.

December Commemorations

Lutherans have always understood that there is great benefit in remembering the saints whom God has given to the Church. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession (Article 21) lists three reasons for such honor. First, we thank God for giving faithful servants to His Church. Second, through such remembrance our faith is strengthened as we see the mercy that God extended to His saints of old. Third, these saints are examples both of faith and of holy living to imitate according to our calling in life.

December 4 - John of Damascus

John (ca. 675–749) is known as the great compiler and summarizer of the orthodox faith and the last great Greek theologian. Born in Damascus, John gave up an influential position in the Islamic court to devote himself to the Christian faith. Around 716 he entered a monastery outside of Jerusalem and was ordained a priest. When the Byzantine emperor Leo the Isaurian in 726 issued a decree forbidding images (icons), John forcefully resisted. In his Apostolic Discourses he argued for the legitimacy of the veneration of images, which earned him the condemnation of the Iconoclast Council in 754. John also wrote defenses of the orthodox faith against contemporary heresies. In addition, he was a gifted hymnwriter ("Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain") and contributed to the liturgy of the Byzantine churches. His greatest work was the Fount of Wisdom which was a massive compendium of truth from previous Christian theologians, covering practically every conceivable doctrinal topic. John's summary of the orthodox faith left a lasting stamp on both the Eastern and Western churches.

December 6 - Nicholas of Myra, Pastor

Of the many saints commemorated by the Christian Church, Nicholas (d. A.D. 342) is one of the best known. Very little is known historically of him, although there was a church of Saint Nicholas in Constantinople as early as the sixth century. Research has affirmed that there was a bishop by the name of Nicholas in the city of Myra in Lycia (part of Turkey today) in the fourth century. From that coastal location, legends about Nicholas have traveled throughout time and space. He is associated with charitable giving in many countries around the world and is portrayed as the rescuer of sailors, the protector of children, and the friend of people in distress or need. In commemoration of "Sinte Klaas" (Dutch for Saint

Nicholas, in English “Santa Claus”), December 6 is a day for giving and receiving gifts in many parts of Europe.

December 7 - Ambrose of Milan, Pastor and Hymnwriter

Born in Trier in A.D. 340, Ambrose was one of the four great Latin Doctors of the Church (with Augustine, Jerome, and Gregory the Great). He was a prolific author of hymns, the most common of which is *Veni, Redemptor gentium* (“Savior of the Nations, Come”). His name is also associated with Ambrosian Chant, the style of chanting the ancient liturgy that took hold in the province of Milan. While serving as a civil governor, Ambrose sought to bring peace among Christians in Milan who were divided into quarreling factions. When a new bishop was to be elected in 374, Ambrose addressed the crowd, and someone cried out, “Ambrose, bishop!” The entire gathering gave their support. This acclaim of Ambrose, a 34-year-old catechumen, led to his baptism on December 7, after which he was consecrated bishop of Milan. A strong defender of the faith, Ambrose convinced the Roman emperor Gratian in 379 to forbid the Arian heresy in the West. At Ambrose's urging, Gratian's successor, Theodosius, also publicly opposed Arianism. Ambrose died on Good Friday, April 4, 397. As a courageous doctor and musician he upheld the truth of God's Word.

December 13 - Lucia, Martyr

One of the victims of the great persecution under the Roman emperor Diocletian, Lucia met her death at Syracuse on the island of Sicily in the year A.D. 304, because of her Christian faith. Known for her charity, “Santa Lucia” (as she is called in Italy) gave away her dowry and remained a virgin until her execution by the sword. The name Lucia means “light,” and, because of that, festivals of light commemorating her became popular throughout Europe, especially in the Scandinavian countries.

There her feast day corresponds with the time of year when there is the least amount of daylight. In artistic expression she is often portrayed in a white baptismal gown, wearing a wreath of candles on her head.

December 17 - Daniel and the Three Young Men

Daniel the prophet and the Three Young Men—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—were among the leaders of the people of Judah who were taken

into captivity in Babylon. Even in that foreign land they remained faithful to the one true God in their piety, prayer, and life. On account of such steadfast faithfulness in the face of pagan idolatry, the Three Young Men were thrown into a fiery furnace, from which they were saved by the Lord and emerged unharmed (Daniel 3). Similarly, Daniel was thrown into a pit of lions, from which he also was saved (Daniel 6). Blessed in all their endeavors by the Lord—and in spite of the hostility of some—Daniel and the Three Young Men were promoted to positions of leadership among the Babylonians (Dan 2:48–49; 3:30; 6:28). To Daniel in particular the Lord revealed the interpretation of dreams and signs that were given to King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar (Daniel 2, 4, 5). To Daniel himself the Lord gave visions of the end times.

December 19 - Adam and Eve

Adam was the first man, made in the image of God and given dominion over all the earth (Gen 1:26). Eve was the first woman, formed from one of Adam's ribs to be his companion and helper (2:18–24). God placed them in the Garden of Eden to take care of the creation as his representatives. But they forsook God's Word and plunged the world into sin (3:1–7). For this disobedience God drove them from the Garden. Eve had to suffer the pain of childbirth and be subject to Adam; Adam had to toil amid thorns and thistles and return to the dust of the ground. Yet God promised that the woman's Seed would crush the serpent's head (3:8–24). Sin had entered God's perfect creation and changed it until God would restore it again through Christ. Eve is the mother of the human race, while Adam is representative of all humanity and the Fall, as St. Paul writes, “For in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive” (1 Cor. 15:22).

December 20 - Katharina von Bora Luther

Katharina von Bora (1499–1552) was placed in a convent when still a child and became a nun in 1515. In April 1523 she and eight other nuns were rescued from the convent and brought to Wittenberg. There Martin Luther helped return some to their former homes and placed the rest in good families. Katharina and Martin were married on June 13, 1525. Their marriage was a happy one and blessed with six children. Katharina skillfully managed the Luther household, which always seemed to grow because of his generous hospitality. After Luther's death in 1546, Katharina remained in Wittenberg but lived much

of the time in poverty. She died in an accident while traveling with her children to Torgau in order to escape the plague.

December 29 - David

David, the greatest of Israel's kings, ruled from about 1010 to 970 B.C. The events of his life are found in 1 Samuel 16 through 1 Kings 2 and in 1 Chronicles 10—29. David was also gifted musically. He was skilled in playing the lyre and the author of no less than 73 psalms, including the beloved Psalm 23. His public and private character

displayed a mixture of good (for example, his defeat of the giant Goliath, 1 Samuel 17) and evil (as in his adultery with Uriah's wife, followed by his murder of Uriah, 2 Samuel 11). David's greatness lay in his fierce loyalty to God as Israel's military and political leader, coupled with his willingness to acknowledge his sins and ask for God's forgiveness (2 Samuel 12; see also Psalm 51). It was under David's leadership that the people of Israel were united into a single nation with Jerusalem as its capital city.

DECEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 ORLS Photos at Barnes & Noble Ala Moana 9am Christmas Decorating at ORLC
4 2nd Sunday in Advent ORLS Photos at Barnes & Noble Ala Moana 9am Communion Voters Meeting 10:30am Christian Education	5	6 6:30pm Board of Education	7 8:30am ORLS Chapel 10am Bible Study 7pm ORLS Christmas Pageant Mamiya Theater	8 8:27am LHS Chapel Music Department	9 7:30pm LHS Christmas Pageant at Calvary By The Sea Church	10
11 3rd Sunday in Advent 9am Communion 10:30am Christian Education	12 8:27am LHS Chapel	13 6:15pm Board of Directors	14 8:30am ORLS Chapel 10am Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper 7:15pm Advent Worship	15 6:30pm ORL C Choir Practice	16	17
18 4th Sunday in Advent 9am Communion 10:30am Christian Education	19 LHS Break to 1/2 ORLS Break to 1/4	20	21 10am Bible Study 7:15pm Longest Night Service	22 6:30pm ORLC Choir Practice	23	24 Christmas Eve 7pm Worship 10pm Communion
25 The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day 10am Communion	26 St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr	27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist	28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs 10am Bible Study	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

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