

ADVENT IS HERE. CHRISTMAS IS NEAR.

DECEMBER AT WAI'OLI HUI'IA CHURCH

KA NŪHOU O WAI'OLI HUI'IA CHURCH
KEKEMAPA/DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



The Meaning of Advent

Advent is the enchanting season leading up to Christmas, filled with anticipation. It is a time rich with hope, where we take a moment to reflect and ready our hearts for the arrival of something truly remarkable.

As the days become shorter, Advent encourages us to look towards the incoming light, welcoming the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. This period serves as the spiritual cornerstone for the joyful celebration of Christ's birth, grounding our festive preparations in a sense of hopeful expectation for the light he brings into the world.



POINSETTIA MEMORIAL



CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT AND CHORUS



CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICES

[Subscribe To Our Newsletter](#)

Kahu's Corner

It's so good to be back in Hanalei and Wai'oli Hui'ia Church. Some things seem the same as ever, other things have changed or are new all together.

I went to the surf swap meet in town, not to buy a surfboard but to check the scene. There were a lot of surfboards, and a few of the surfers I used to see out on the Bay. Peter used to surf all day every day. He said he was just getting back to surfing. Because of hip surgeries and other health problems, he was just trying to stand up on a surfboard again. I told him I was in the same place with my hip operations. It was good to talk story with him about surfing and share the common bonds of busted up oldie surfer life. Which for both of us, wouldn't be same as before.

The new sidewalk has been opened. But when I walked into town, I chose to walk on the old dirt side of the road. A truck pulled up behind me: "Hey Kahu, how come you're not walking on the new sidewalk?" I made some goofy comeback. But really the new sidewalk was too strange and unfamiliar. Nonetheless with more cars and more cars passing me so close, I am now walking on the sidewalk.

Christmas has so many old traditions and memories. But every Christmas brings something different and the response is ours. In midst of the good, the bad and the ugly and everything else, Jesus was born to bring us a new way and a new life. Let us remember, receive and celebrate His birth in our lives.

--By: Kahu Alpha
December 2025

Mele Kalikimaka iā 'oe!

SCRIPTURE

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US, AND WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, GLORY AS OF THE ONLY SON FROM THE FATHER, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

-JOHN 1:14 2

Welcoming Kahu Alpha Goto and Pam to Wai'oli Hui'ia

This season, we are thrilled to welcome Kahu Alpha Goto and his wife, Pam, as they guide Wai'oli Hui'ia through the Advent and Christmas celebrations. Kahu Alpha, our former pastor, has been generously providing pulpit supply since 2018. We invite you to join us during Sunday services to greet them and share your aloha. Having such dedicated leaders during this sacred period is truly a blessing.



This season can be heavy for many. Take a moment to check on your neighbors—especially the aunties and uncles who don't have anyone nearby—and share a little extra aloha.

Walking the Season of Advent at Wai'oli Hui'ia Church

Advent reminds us that light does not arrive all at once — it grows, candle by candle, among us.

ADVENT WREATH THEMES

Hope

Madelyn and Duncan Forgey, Nov 30
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.
— Romans 15:13 (NIV)

Peace

Wendy Elsasser, 12/7
“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.”
— John 14:27 (NIV)

Joy

Janey Kanter, 12/14
“The joy of the Lord is your strength.”
— Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)

Love, 12/21

Debbie and Jim Oliver, with family
“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us.”
— 1 John 4:10 (NIV)



Lighting the first Advent candle of Hope, led by members of our Wai'oli Hui'ia 'ohana.

Advent: A Season of Becoming Ready.

At Wai'oli Hui'ia, we take a moment to slow down and mark the passage of time through the lighting of the Advent wreath — a weekly reminder that God's light quietly and faithfully grows among us.

Each Sunday, members of our church 'ohana come forward to light a candle, guiding us through the four themes of *Hope, *Peace, *Joy, and *Love. These moments encourage us to pause, reflect, and remember that Christ enters the world not with grandeur, but through ordinary individuals, shared stories, and acts of love.

As the light brightens each week, so does our anticipation — preparing our hearts for the joyful arrival of Christmas.

**On Christmas Eve,
we gather in
candlelight —
not to chase away
the darkness,
but to proclaim that
the Light has come.**



Children's Christmas Pageant & Chorus

Join us for a delightful Children's Christmas Pageant and Chorus on **Sunday, December 14, at 10:00 a.m.** during our worship service.

- The children will reenact the Christmas story
- Sing beloved carols
- Dance the hula in celebration of Jesus' birth

Come create lasting memories and support our young performers!



Poinsettia Memorial



Poinsettias: A Beloved Symbol of the Christmas Season

Poinsettias have been a treasured emblem of the Christmas season for many years. Their striking red leaves serve as a reminder of Christ's love, while their star-shaped design directs us towards the Star of Bethlehem, guiding everyone towards the light of Christ's birth.

Invitation to Participate

Everyone is invited to bring a poinsettia "in memory", "in honor of", "in celebration of" etc.. Please inform the church office of the information so that we might acknowledge and print it in our Christmas Eve service program.

You can **drop off your plants from December 15 to 23, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM at the Church Office.**

Thank you for participating in this meaningful tradition and for helping to prepare our sacred space.



“The light shines
in the darkness,
and the
darkness has
not
overcome it.”

— John 1:5

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services – 5:30 & 7:00 pm

A HEARTFELT INVITATION FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

THERE'S SOMETHING PROFOUNDLY TOUCHING ABOUT CHRISTMAS EVE—A NIGHT THAT SEEMS TO PAUSE TIME ITSELF. AS TWILIGHT DESCENDS AND CANDLES ARE KINDLED ONE BY ONE, OUR SANCTUARY IS BATHED IN A SERENE GLOW, ACCCOMPANIED BY GENTLE MUSIC AND A COLLECTIVE SENSE OF AWE.

THIS IS THE MOMENT WHEN WE LEAVE BEHIND THE LONG WAIT OF ADVENT AND FULLY EMBRACE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS.

JOIN US AT **5:30 PM** OR **7:00 PM** FOR A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE ENRICHED WITH SCRIPTURE, CHERISHED CAROLS, AND THE WARM LIGHT OF CANDLES SHARED THROUGHOUT THE CONGREGATION. TOGETHER, WE WILL SING, REFLECT, AND WELCOME THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD INTO THE DARKNESS. IT'S A SACRED AND TENDER EVENING—ONE THAT INVITES STILLNESS, HOPE, AND THE SIMPLE MAGIC OF GOD-WITH-US.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

**** COME WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, OR SIMPLY AS YOU ARE.**

Come, Gather & Serve

This Advent & Christmas

December 2025

:(808) 826-6253

✉: waiolihuiachurch@gmail.com

Wai'oli Hui'ia Church

If you would like to assist in an area, please contact the church office, mahalo!



Special December Activities

- Dec 7- Communion Sunday (10:00 am) Sanctuary
Advent Week 2: Peace (Wendy Elsasser)
- Dec 5 and 12 – Children's Christmas Pageant and Chorus Rehearsals (2:15-2:45 pm) Sanctuary
- Dec 13-Children's Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (9:00 am) Sanctuary
- Dec 14-Children's Christmas Pageant and Chorus (10:00 am) Sanctuary
Advent Week 3: Joy (Janey Kanter)
- Dec 15-23-Poinsettia Memorial Drop Off
Mon-Friday (9:00 am - 2:00 pm) Church Office
- Dec 21-Traditional Hawaiian-style Service (10:00 am) Sanctuary
Advent Week 4: Love (Oliver 'Ohana)
- Dec 24-Christmas Eve Services (5:30 and 7:00 pm) Sanctuary
- Dec 28-Traditional Hawaiian-style Service (10:00 am) Sanctuary
- Dec 31-New Year's Eve

Weekly Activities



Sunday
9 am Choir Practice
10 am Sunday Worship Service
Monday & Thursday
3:30 - 5:00 pm Hālau O Hanalei
Thursday
5:30 pm Choir Practice
Monday - Friday (Dec 1-15)
9 am - 2 pm Earth School Hawaii



Wai'oli Service Angels

December 7

Worship Leader: Jim Oliver
Ushers: Janey Kanter & Erin Wilson
Communion Helpers: Jim Oliver & Marau Beck
Gift Shop: Debbie Oliver & Erin Wilson
Sanctuary Prep: Erin Wilson

December 14

Worship Leader: Janey Kanter
Ushers: Scott Lutton, Josh Vea
Gift Shop: **2 Needed**
Sanctuary Prep: Pam Odo-Goto

December 21

Worship Leader: Nicolle Jones
Ushers: Marau & Hobey Beck
Alter Flowers: Ramos 'Ohana
Gift Shop: Erin Wilson & Kaye Vea
Sanctuary Prep: **1 Needed**

December 24 (5:30 & 7:00 pm)

Ushers: Marau and Hobey Beck (5:30 & 7:00), Josh & Kaye Vea (7:00) **2 Needed for 5:30 Service**
Sanctuary Prep: **1 Needed**

December 28

Worship Leader: Josh Vea
Ushers: Debbie Oliver & Kaye Vea
Gift Shop: Debbie Oliver & Kaye Vea
Sanctuary Prep: **1 Needed**