



Saint Mark Lutheran Church

45-725 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 • (808) 247-4565 • www.StMarkHawaii.org

April Servant Highlights

<p>April 1: Acolyte: Justin T. Lectors: Darrell S. & Anthony W. Media Tech: Bill W. Ushers: Lutz P., Mark F., Luke K., Jonathan B. Elder: Tom Slavens Kingdom Callers: Wynhoff Ohana Keiki Message: Nikki H. Sunday School: Kimi G. & Rachel H.</p>	<p>April 15: Acolyte: Isaiah G. Lectors: Richard D. & Audrey R. Media Tech: Josh H. Ushers: Paul G., Frank T., Jason M., Jerry H. Elder: Bill Wynhoff Kingdom Callers: Dole Ohana Keiki Message: SMLS 7th Graders Sunday School: Beth S. & Kimi G.</p>
<p>April 8: Easter Acolyte: Abigail H. Lectors: Bill W. & Doug H. Media Tech: Scott M. Ushers: Tom A., David G., Nathan N., Matt P. Elder: Tom Slavens Kingdom Callers: Lim Ohana Keiki Message: Sarah M. Sunday School: No Sunday School</p>	<p>April 22: Acolyte: Miriam H. Lectors: Janelle B. & Jason M. Media Tech: Matthew S. Ushers: Rick F., Tom S., Anthony W., Lyle O. Elder: Bill Wynhoff Kingdom Callers: Bretscher Ohana Keiki Message: SMLS 7th Graders Sunday School: Janelle B. & Lenore W.</p>

April 29:
Acolyte: Josh H. **Lectors:** Yal L. & Shirley Ann G. **Media Tech:** Scott M.
Ushers: Richard D., Mitch A., Ardath A. **Elder:** Darlene Fink **Kingdom Callers:** Hilpert Ohana
Keiki Message: SMLS 7th Graders **Sunday School:** Shannon C. & Kate C.

Servants in Christ

We would like to give a big *Mahalo* to all of the servants in Christ that are currently offering their time and talents to Saint Mark Lutheran Church.

If the Lord has touched your heart and you are looking for a way to serve Him the following are a few options. If the expression of your gift is not listed please contact the Church office at 808-247-4565 or at secretary@stmarkhawaii.org.

Saint Mark Food Bank is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Donations—both food and monetary—are always welcome and of great help for this ministry. Monetary donations are tax deductible as well. With your help we can help feed Hawaii's hungry. If you have any questions or would like to help maintain the food closet, please call Katie Shirley at 596-2771.

Aloha From Pastor Matt

Don't miss the joy of the resurrection. So often I hear the comment, "Those Pharisees and synagogue leaders were bad people. They sought to kill the Son of God. Why didn't they love God? Why didn't they believe His Word?" The fact is that the Pharisees loved the Lord. They loved Him so much that they went to temple every Sabbath; they read His word daily, they studied and discussed the implications of His word on their lives; they encouraged each other to live for the Lord and to stay away from sinful behavior. We might even say that they were more faithful than us, holy and devout Lutheran Christians.

But the Pharisees and religious leaders of Jesus' day did have a problem. They were so caught up in themselves and their own understanding of what they thought faithfulness to God was intended to be that they missed the very Word of God in the flesh. They misinterpreted the miracles of God in their midst as works of Satan (**Mark 3: 22-23**). They missed the teachings of Jesus as He told them parables to open their minds and help them to understand the scriptures. They missed the numerous prophecies that were fulfilled in Christ's earthly ministry. They missed Jesus teachings regarding His death and resurrection, "**Jesus answered them, destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" (**John 2: 19**) The Pharisees were so caught up in all that they thought God to be and what He expected of their lives that they missed God active in their lives.

At times it is easy to cast stones at those who lived long ago and criticize their reluctance to embrace God who came among them. However, we need to reflect on our own lives and ask ourselves if we may be missing His teachings, His miracles, and His life among us today?

We who live on this side of the resurrection and confess our faith in a living and risen Lord Jesus, recognize how He comes to us on Sunday mornings through His word spoken through His pastor and He touches us through His sacraments giving forgiveness and life. But do we find tremendous joy in these miracles and teachings or do we merely view them according to our own desires and expectations? Do we realize that our living and risen God speaks to us and touches our lives outside of Sunday mornings at church? Do we recognize His many blessings to us as He expands His kingdom? Do we cherish the new life we have in Christ and the hope that we have been given of the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting without the effects of sin?

This Easter, experience the joy of the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus Christ not by how our celebration fits your expectations and meets your desires but in how the Lord renews your faith to His Gospel. Experience the joy of our living God who is with us every day, even until the very end of the age. Rejoice in the knowledge that no matter what valleys of life we may face, that we are never alone and that our God has already conquered all. Celebrate the gifts of His Spirit to us and through one another as His growing ohana, and allow yourself to be surprised by His magnificent acts of grace.

On that first Easter, all of Jesus' faithful followers were surprised and a bit frightened by the miracle of the resurrection of the dead. Some, like Mary, were brought to tears, while others like Thomas and the disciples were in adamant disbelief of such a report. So many of God's faithful and devout people throughout history have missed the joy of God's miracles, because they just could not fathom God acting in a way beyond their expectations. May our celebration of Easter continue beyond our Sunday morning anticipations to fill us each day with such joy that God opens our eyes to witness His presence, Christ's teachings, and the God's miracles in our daily lives everywhere that His Spirit leads.

From Saint Mark's President

Aloha Members and Friends of Saint Mark,

Just after sunrise on April 8th, we will gather together at a top the hill at Windward Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) as a congregation to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What a great opportunity to enjoy God's beautiful creation of Hawaii and to share in the joy of promises of boundless forgiveness and eternal life purchased with Christ's flesh and blood at the cross and secured with his victory over the grave.

Our Easter celebrations should be more than just joining for worship, fellowship, feasting, and fun. They should also serve as an opportunity to continue living out St. Mark's mission: "To extend the love and care of Jesus Christ to all people" as we share the grace and peace provided us on Easter morning with our family, friends, neighbors, and all in need of receiving the Gospel of our Risen Lord.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)

Amen!

Mark Fink

LWML Malia Maleka League, Mary/Martha

No new meetings are planned for the immediate future. We are going ahead with plans for our Second Annual All Ladies Tea. Watch for more information and MARK YOUR CALENDAR'S NOW~~!! May 12 from 2-4 p.m. in our Gym. All females are invited so plan to bring Moms, Grandmas, Sisters, Nieces, Daughters, Granddaughters, Great Granddaughters, Friends for a great afternoon of fellowship. An assortment of teas, scones and other goodies will be available. We also plan to invite women from other LCMS churches. Plan to meet and greet old friends and make new ones.

And-By the Way: Our menfolk will be serving all of the Mom's a pancake breakfast for Mothers' Day. More detail as time gets closer. Ladies are planning a brunch/lunch for Father's Day!!!

Mahalo nui loa to the Eight ladies who learned to make the ribbon leis for our school graduates. It was a fun hour and a half and we now have a whole new group of ladies who can help us with this fun task. Anyone interested in learning to make other kinds of leis with yarn, ribbon etc? If so, let me know and we can plan for another session.

Watch for other projects and fun things coming in the next few months. We need and want more ladies to get involved and we also need new ideas. It is great to see so many new faces in church, folks ready, willing and able to provide Service for our Ohana and beyond. We are busy and getting busier- what a Blessing!!! Feel free to contact any of the following for more information or to share ideas: Alice DeCosterd, Sally Brady, Mary Stewart. Dot Brum, Peggy Brinkhof or myself. Check the Church Directory for phone numbers and emails if you don't contact us at church.

Adele Mitchell, LWML Co-Representative

Sharing Your Talents

In February, Adele taught us how to make ribbon leis. In March, Shannon shared with us how to turn the old blue hymnals into angels. Do you have a talent that you would like to share with the Saint Mark Ohana? Contact the church office at 808-247-4565 or email at secretary@stmarkhawaii.org to set up a time.

He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed!

DCE Corner – What's going on in April?

Ohana Beach Day - April 29th 2-5 pm at Kailua Beach by the lifeguard stand. Bring your family and come hang out with friends at the beach!

Kindergarten - 5th graders - Don't forget about **Sunday School** on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am! You wouldn't want to miss out on the fun games, crafts, and stories about the amazing things Jesus did while we was on earth!

6th - 12th graders - Join us on **Sunday mornings for Bible Study** in Sarah's office! We are learning about bizarre Bible stories and what we can learn from these people and the crazy things they did. In April we are going to talk about David, Absalom, Elisha, and Jezebel. Don't know who these people are? Come find out Sunday morning at 8:30 am!

High schoolers - Let's talk about things that we as a church body do well and the things we sometimes aren't so good at. Come to **Zippy's by the mall at 6:00 pm** on Sunday nights for **fun, food, and some great discussion**. See you there and don't forget, it's always more fun when you bring a friend!

Keiki and all those who love keiki - Mark your calendars! Babylon is coming to Saint Mark in the form of **Vacation Bible School on June 4-8!** We will be learning about Daniel and some of his friends in Group's Babylon. If you would like to help out with this year's Vacation Bible School in any way, small or large, please let Sarah know so she can get you plugged in.

Would you like to help with our **Keiki Sunday School** program? Would you like to try giving a fun and exciting **Keiki Message** on a Sunday morning? We would love to help you use the gifts that God has given you for His glory not just in the community, but in our church ohana too! If you would like to get involved in one of these areas please contact Sarah Morris via email at sarah@stmarkhawaii.org or via phone at 247-4565. Mahalo!



Board of Outreach and Fellowship

Family Promise - Mahalo to everyone who helped out during our March 18 – 25 Family Promise Week. It was wonderful to see our sign-up board completely full after just one week! Thanks to our many dedicated volunteers, the week went smoothly. We had three guest families consisting of five adults and 9 children ranging in age from 4 months to 9 years staying with us in the gym. It was a week full of good news: Lianne and Solomon found out that their family had secured housing at Barber's Point; Jolynn got word that she is to receive her housing assistance voucher soon; and Shone started a new job while he was with us. We rejoice with these families and are so thankful that we had the opportunity to witness their joy and excitement. We also had a visit from some past Family Promise guests. It was wonderful to see Dan, Malin, Maile and Sammy again and find that they are doing well, completely independent and living on their own in Kaneohe. They are thankful for all that the Family Promise program has done for them and are giving back by volunteering at other churches during their Family Promise weeks. We will be seeing them in June as they have asked to help out during our next rotation!

We are grateful to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Saint Mark's LWML Chapter for providing funding to offset costs for this rotation. Thrivent Financial awarded us a \$400 Care Abounds in Communities grant and LWML gave us \$100 from proceeds raised during their recent bake sale. Thank you for your support of this wonderful program. Our next Family Promise rotation will be the week of June 10. Mark your calendars!

Easter Breakfast - There will be a potluck breakfast at 8:30am on Easter Sunday down in the gym. Come join us! For those who are physically unable to navigate the stairs, a shuttle will be available to drive people up and down the hill to the gym.

Saint Mark Congregational Photo - On Easter Sunday immediately following the egg hunt, we will be gathering on the hill leading down to the gym to take a group photo. When the announcement is made, please be prepared to gather together for a quick photo. Thank you!

Bread Breakers Dinner Saturday April 14 at 6PM - Bread Breakers is a new adult social group whose purpose is to serve as a means for members to get to know each other better by having food and fellowship in a small, casual environment. We hope to meet about once a month. Don't worry if you can't commit to coming each month, just come when you can! Our first potluck dinner will be held at the home of Richard and Betty Knake, 47-433 Lulani Street in Kaneohe. Look for the sign up sheet out on guest book podium. For directions or more information, contact Richard or Betty at alohaknake@aol.com or 239-2410.

Ladies Tea, Saturday, May 12 at 2PM - Ladies of all ages, both young and old are invited to attend a tea party to be held down in the gym, which will be transformed to a high class tea parlor. Come dressed to impress and enjoy a variety of teas and delectable finger sandwiches, scones, etc. served by your table host on a real tea set. A wonderful event for mothers and daughters to attend together, as well as any women who enjoy good company and sipping tea with their pinkies raised. More information coming soon but put this event on your calendars now.

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
(John 15:12)*

New Members

On March 18, we welcomed the Corey, Knake, Menarchik, Ostrander and Schmidt Ohanas. May God continue to bless and grow our Saint Mark Ohana.



Note from the Board of Parish Education

Our Sunday School is growing! When we began the combined service we had between 5-7 kids regularly. Last week we got to teach 15 of our keiki! They are learning about Lent and the second article of the Nicene Creed. They are learning to sing together as a choir. They are having fun with each other as we study God's Holy Word. What a privilege to be a part of their growth! We now have a separate class for Jr. and Sr. High school and a class for 3-4 years old. The adult class is doing well also and the Wednesday study is as strong as ever. We have many opportunities to increase your knowledge of the Bible and fellowship with each other, so please look for a group to join to mature and enhance your faith.

Blessings,
Rachel Hilpert

April 2012

Birthdays/  Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Palm Sunday 8:30 am Bible Study for all ages 9:30 am Ohana Blended Worship 10:45 am Ohana Fellowship 11:15 am Praise Team Practice  Alice DeCosterd	2	3 7:00 pm Board of Elders	4 8:00 am SMLS Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Prayer Warriors	5 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service  Janet Tanaka	6 Good Friday 7:00 pm Good Friday Service  Bob Hill  Matthew Perry	7 8:00-10:00 am Saint Mark Food Bank  Elijah Warren  Leilani Warren
8 Easter Sunday Food Bank "Harvest" Sunday 7:00 am Sunrise Service at HPU 8:30 am Potluck Brunch 10:00 am Easter Service	9	10 6:00 pm Church Council	11 8:00 am SMLS Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Prayer Warriors 1:30 pm Youth Quest  Jeff Hendrix  Jim Tripp	12 6:15 pm SMLS Board of Education  Zoe LaChance  Nams	13	14 8:00-10:00 am Saint Mark Food Bank  Frank Tanaka
15 LWML Mite Collection Sunday 8:30 am Bible Study for all ages 9:30 am Ohana Blended Worship 10:45 am Ohana Fellowship 11:15 am Praise Team Practice  Lisa Chaffin  Sun Rudeen	16  Harold Brinkopf	17	18 8:00 am SMLS Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Prayer Warriors 1:30 pm Youth Quest	19	20	21 7:30 am Men of the Word 8:00-10:00 am Saint Mark Food Bank
22 8:30 am Bible Study for all ages 9:30 am Ohana Blended Worship 10:45 am Ohana Fellowship 11:15 am Praise Team Practice	23	24	25 8:00 am SMLS Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Prayer Warriors 1:30 pm Youth Quest	26  Raydeen Busse  Buddy DeCosterd  Jessica Nam	27	28 8:00-10:00 am Saint Mark Food Bank  Joelle Lee
29 8:30 am Bible Study for all ages 9:30 am Ohana Blended Worship 10:45 am Ohana Fellowship  Maya Nam  Appels	30					