Aloha SMLC congregation, this is a note from your head elder. As I write this note we are getting closer and closer to an agreement with our intentional interim pastor…we are excited. As for the rest of the services leading up to the interim’s arrival, they will be elder lead and without communion; our decision to forgo communion is basically to honor the sanctity of the sacrament. We hope those that are not pleased with this decision will prayerfully consider that the board of elders intentions concerning no communion are whole and true. Transition is almost never easy but if we pray for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to guide us through all the transitions we encounter in life and specifically our current time of being without a pastor I believe we will come out on the winning team. Our service on July 21st could possibly be lead by Lloyd Willweber, we will contact him in mid July to see if he has returned from vacation and is able to serve. The pastor we are near agreement with would be able to arrive the week of July 22, 2019. We ask for your continued prayers and attendance on Sundays, remember the Lord will see us through, have trust in humanity and always have faith in the Lord’s will – for it will be done.
July 2019 Newsletter Article  
by Rev. Josemon Hoem

“PRAY WITHOUT CEASING” (1 THESS. 5:17)

I once heard John Klenig say, “If you ever want to burden a Christian’s conscience, just ask them about their prayer life.” As a parish pastor I often hear, “I guess all we can do now is pray,” as if somehow prayer is a last resort when all else has failed.

Paul tells us in Thess. 5:17 that we are to “pray without ceasing,” we immediately become overwhelmed by this burden or obligation. But for the Christian, we are reminded that prayer is not intended to be a burden, but a treasured gift and invitation to talk to our Heavenly Father, whose ear is always open to hearing our prayer.

I think about the night I spent in the arms of Cecelia Amma, an Indian nun, who held and prayed for me before I was adopted by a family in America. We cried together as she prayed that the Lord’s will be done, uncertain of my future. I am also reminded how my parents prayed for me when I was born, and how they taught me to pray for my future bride. Now I pray for my children and the plans God has in store for them. What a joy it is to “pray without ceasing” for all those whom God has placed in my path.

Early Learning Center

Saint Mark Lutheran School’s Early Learning Center will be opening August 2019! The new 11,000 sq ft. building will provide three Pre-school classes. One PK3 class (ranging from 20-24 students), and two PK4 classes (ranging from 20-26 students each). An official Blessing Ceremony will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2019 at the ELC. Pastor Dan Truesdell will be leading the Blessing, Open House and tour to follow.

Please contact our Admission’s Director, Robin Kahaulelio at rkahaulelio@smls-hawaii.org / 247-5589 should you have any questions or Inquire On-Line and we will contact you.
Our June Family Promise rotation ended on June 23rd. We began our first week with three families and ended our second week with three families. Sound boring? I assure you, it wasn't! A few days into our rotation, we got a fourth family in: Marcia, a young mother with three adorable children ages 3, 2 and 1. Ah, the sweet sounds of toddler siblings playing nicely together. It is spelled RUCKUS. On Father's Day, we witnessed Wilbur, Neilani and baby Rosa graduate from the program. Neilani was beaming as she and her family walked out our gym door for the last time, heading to get the keys to their own apartment. Her dear friend Barbara (also one of our guests) made plans to help Neilani pick up necessities like a shower curtain and cleaning supplies at Walmart before driving with her out to Waianae to help them move in. Barbara, Neilani and their families entered the program together last Christmastime as strangers. They quickly became family, who supported and encouraged each other throughout their stay. We were back down to three families for two days, when a new family of five was added. That sadly lasted just two nights, as they decided to leave the program. Please keep all of these families in your prayers. They need them. They face challenges that we will hopefully never have to experience.

Thank you to all who volunteered. Many of you did double duty, filling several open spots. Mahalo especially to Kristy and Jim Schroppel, who stepped up to help when Yal and I couldn't be there. Our next two week rotation is October 6 - 20. We look forward to seeing you there! In the meantime, if you would like more information on Family Promise of Hawai'i and ways you can help, please visit their website at:

https://familypromisehawaii.org/

Aloha,

Kristin and Yal Lim, Coordinators
Independence Day—July 4th
Truth leads to Freedom

WARM UP
ASK: “What is ‘independence’ and why do we celebrate it?” (Independence is the freedom of control of others. We celebrate our freedom from the rule of Great Britain when the Declaration of Independence was first adopted on July 4, 1776, and the United States of America was born.)

Read aloud John 8: 32: And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (ESV)
Say: “If we know the truth, we will be free.”

ACTIVITY: The Pledge Hunt
Draw Twelve five point stars on construction paper (with pencil) and cut out with scissors. Make them at least two or three inches wide. Number them 1 to 12. Write the Pledge of Allegiance broken down into twelve phrases on the twelve stars: 1-I Pledge, 2-Allegiance, 3-To the flag, 4-Of the United States of America, 5-And to the Republic, 6-For which it stands 7-One nation, 8-Under God, 9-Indivisible,10-With Liberty,11-And justice,12-For All.

When the Freedom Stars are completed, collect them and hide them in the house or in the backyard. Make sure the kids don’t see you hiding them. When they are hidden, come back to the kids and SAY: “We are going to look for freedom today. Freedom isn’t easy; we have to work at it. We have to look for it, and when we discover it, we have to keep it. We are going on a scavenger hunt for twelve stars that spell out our Pledge of Allegiance.

FAMILY DISCUSSION
After the hunt, gather the stars and arrange them in order. Then lead a discussion using the following—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“I pledge”</th>
<th>A pledge is a promise.</th>
<th>“One nation”</th>
<th>Even though we are many states we are ONE nation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Allegiance”</td>
<td>I will be loyal and faithful to be on their side.</td>
<td>“Under God”</td>
<td>People came to this land to worship God the way they wanted to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“To the flag”</td>
<td>A symbol of the ideas that made our country</td>
<td>“Indivisible”</td>
<td>Cannot be divided even though we have had challenges and disagreements; we choose to stay together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Of the United States of America”</td>
<td>We are many states, but we are ONE family—on the same team.</td>
<td>“With liberty”</td>
<td>We aren’t prisoners of anyone. We have freedom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“And to the Republic”</td>
<td>Everyone gets a vote.</td>
<td>“And Justice.”</td>
<td>Fairness. Everyone getting what is right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“For which it stands”</td>
<td>The flag represents this.</td>
<td>“For All”</td>
<td>Democracy includes everyone equally. All have rights.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TODAY’S SLOGAN: Memorize a patriotic poem (e.g. My Country’s Flag)
“Flag of my country Reminds me that I’m free, Free to be me!”

ADAPTING FOR ...

YOUNGER CHILDREN: Draw the stars for your child and help with the cutting. Explain the concepts of the pledge

TEENS: In the discussion, ASK: “What is the link between honoring dad and living a long life? Why is there a relationship between the two?” (To keep kids from living foolish lives that will be shortened.) “What are some ways teens can honor their dad, other than Father’s Day?”

PRAYER:
Father God, we thank You for our dad. As we look at his life and his heart, we see You, our Heavenly Father. Help us to appreciate him and cooperate with him and give him the respect he deserves; especially today as we celebrate him. In Jesus’ name, Amen.
That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day. 2 Timothy 1:12

Remember the school letters that began “Dear Parent or Guardian”? During my childhood, guardians were rare. Most of us kids thought they were angels. Little did we realize how important guardians could be.

We all need a guardian— with a capital G. That’s the substance of this fifth great truth from God. He guards our faith. Because overt and violent persecution of Christians is rare in America, we’re lulled into a sense of safety. Maybe the devil knows that the freedoms protected in our country our best fought by doing nothing. When believers think they have nothing to fear, they tend to forget their need for God. The children of Israel were good examples of this phenomena. They lived in a cycle that began with fervent faith and moved to routine acceptance of God’s Involvement in their affairs. Life became so comfortable that believers took their beliefs less seriously. Before long, they ranked among the unbelievers—until God reminded them of their special relationship again.

Our greatest need today is no different. God appointed the Holy Spirit as our Guardian. In truth, He preserves our faith better than anyone else. And when we become overly contented, our Guardian sometimes jars us back to reality with a few disasters of our own. Instead of moving further away from God in times of trouble, our Guardian pushes us into the arms of our loving, heavenly Father. He takes us to the foot of the cross and the door of the empty tomb to remind us of what we believe. Of course, should the devil make bolder attempts to steal our faith, our Guardian springs into action, claiming us as children of God and off-limits to Satan. Yes, God appointed the Holy Spirit as our guardian. “Dear Guardian” indeed!
Dear Friends,

Greetings once again, we hope this finds you enjoying the last days of Spring. We know many of you are having a lot of rain -- too much of it in fact. We are wishing we could share in some of that rain as we are in drought conditions and are likely not to get rain until November or December.

We are continuing to plug along. Work is going very slowly and we are really seeing a lot of spiritual warfare. We realize spiritual warfare is not really recognized in our modern society, and most of us don't think about it much. However, evil spirits do exist, and the things our translators (and us, to some extent) are experiencing are real and are affecting their work. We ask that you would continue to keep Splash, Moses, and Moronga in your prayers.

Otherwise, we are getting ready to have some of the people from the Bible Society of Botswana (BSB) come and visit our area next week. The purpose of the visit is for the BSB people to meet with Khwe community leaders and to mobilize support in the community for our Bible translation program. This was actually to have been done years ago, but we are so remote and there were some changes and happenings within the BSB which just kept it from happening. We are happy they are going to visit our area now, hopefully it will be a very positive thing for the Khwe.

Tim is also continuing to write his thesis for his doctorate program. He has just finished his fourth chapter and it has been approved. He now has to write his last chapter. Hopefully he will be able to do that and have it approved before our furlough; then he should be able to defend his thesis while we are on furlough and hopefully receive his doctorate next Spring. Any prayers on Tim's behalf are appreciated.

**Praises:**

- Thanksgiving for the coming visit of people from the Bible Society of Botswana.
- Thanksgiving that Tim has only one more chapter to write on his thesis.
- Thanksgiving for Splash, Moses and Moronga.

**Prayers:**

* Please pray that visit by BSB would go well and really encourage the Khwe communities.

* Please pray that Tim would be able to get his thesis done.

* Please pray that the translation team would be protected against spiritual attack.

Thank you again for all of your prayers on our behalf.

Tim, Lisa, Aaron & Andrew Beckendorf
July

7/1  Leilani Lee
7/3  Hana Rupnow
7/6  Matthew Bowdell
7/7  Michael Chaffin
7/7  Robyn Disque
7/8  Patsy Seo
7/10 Rose Miyasaki
7/11 Kalei Akaka
7/11 Janice Ha
7/14 Janice Tupa
7/16 Ben Chaffin
7/16 Mildred Hill
7/17 Daniel Ha
7/17 Bobby Lane
7/17 Paige Picquet
7/18 Louise Wolcott
7/21 Joshua Chaffin
7/21 Paul Macri
7/22 Lawrence Seo
7/26 Martin Sorenson
7/27 Dorothy Brum
7/28 Randall Hoffman
7/28 Robert Rupnow
7/29 Harriet Young
7/30 Todd Santala

Happy Anniversary

7/7  Williams
7/9  Tucker
7/16 McMinn
7/18 Brum
7/20 Seo
7/29 Murata

- **Midweek Study/ Prayer Warriors** gathers at 10:00am at church on Wednesdays for refreshments and a discussion of upcoming Sunday readings.
- **Nursery** during Worship Service available for your keiki located just off of the sanctuary
- **Sunday School** meets at 8:30am on Sundays prior to worship for youth, teenage, and adults.
- **Keiki Church and Keiki/Youth Bible Study** will be taking a break until the beginning of September.
- **Saint Mark Food Bank** meets every Saturday from 8:00am-10:00am to open the food pantry to those in need.
  **Volunteers & Donations Needed**
- **Communion & Keiki Message** will be temporarily on hold during the month of July. Please bear with us during this time of transition.
## July Servant Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Elder</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Acolyte</th>
<th>Keiki Message</th>
<th>Media Tech</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
<th>Nursery</th>
<th>Sunday School</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Matt</td>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Paige</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Jason</td>
<td>John, Mark, Mary</td>
<td>Kristin</td>
<td>8:30am– Adult Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Susan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ann,</td>
<td>(on call)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Yal</td>
<td>Mary Ann</td>
<td>Jacob</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>Bruce, Frank, Da-</td>
<td>Lani</td>
<td>8:30am– Adult Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>Katie</td>
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<td>vid</td>
<td>(on call)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Teresa</td>
<td>Beth</td>
<td>Lani</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Jason</td>
<td>Toby, Bill, Brad</td>
<td>Mary Ann</td>
<td>8:30am– Adult Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td></td>
<td>Betty</td>
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<td>(on call)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Kristy</td>
<td>Toby</td>
<td>Eli</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>Yal, Richard, Nathan</td>
<td>Yal</td>
<td>8:30am– Adult Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>Teresa</td>
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## July Communion Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Set Up</th>
<th>Clean-Up</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>July 14</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<td>July 28</td>
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## Prayer Requests

There are many ways to submit a prayer request. If you would like to be added to our prayers please sign the prayer request paper after service, contact the office via email or phone, or click the link [Prayer Request](#).

**Please keep these families in your prayers.**

- **Housebound:** AB, Jinny J, Elizabeth M, David M, Jim T, Harold & Peggy B, Gloria S. Elizabeth M, Rhonda C.
- **Military:** Chris W, Scott W, Tom W,
- **Help & Healing:** Marie S., Larry R, Tyler V, Ginny V, John B, Steve L, Hilpert Ohana, Pua, Mike M.
  Mrs. G, Family Promise families, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Galilee Lutheran Church
- **Peace & Comfort:** Rege Ohana, Pescht Ohana, Plane crash victim’s families
- **Missionaries:** Beckendorfs, Stovers, Legrand
- **Thanksgiving:** Ruthie Kate, ELC, SMLS School, Roxy, Ruby, Rory J, Wilbur & Neilani, Bruce E.
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Normal Office hours</td>
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<td>Tues-Fri</td>
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<td>8:30am-12:30pm</td>
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<td>7:00– Elder’s Meeting</td>
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<td>10:00am- Bible Study/Prayer Warriors</td>
<td>7:15– Worship Team</td>
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<td>8:00am– Food Bank</td>
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<td>8:30am- Sunday School</td>
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<td>9:30am - Worship/</td>
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<td>10:00am- Bible Study/Prayer Warriors</td>
<td>6:00pm- Board of Education</td>
<td>7:15pm– Worship Team</td>
<td>8:00am- Food Bank</td>
<td>8:00am- Food Bank</td>
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<td>Fellowship</td>
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<td>8:30am- Sunday School</td>
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<td>6:00pm Church Council Meeting</td>
<td>10:00am- Bible Study/Prayer Warriors</td>
<td>7:15pm– Worship Team</td>
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<td>8:00am- Food Bank</td>
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<td>8:30am- Sunday School</td>
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<td>9:30am - Worship/Fellowship</td>
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<td>11:00 – LWML Mite Sunday and meeting</td>
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