



**Saint Mark Lutheran Church**  
45-725 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 • (808) 247-4565 • [www.StMarkHawaii.org](http://www.StMarkHawaii.org)

# May

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Well, I can't believe that I'm writing my final newsletter article here at Saint Mark. It seems that I just wrote the first one. Of course, when I think about all the things that have taken place between that first article and this one, I realize that much has happened in the intervening time.

One of my first experiences upon my arrival was terrible heat and humidity. Some of you even commented that it hasn't been that hot in a long time. I came from dry heat to humid heat. My shirt stuck to my back. What a difference. More importantly was the warm welcome I received from you. Sharon and I both felt comfortable right away. We will always be grateful for that welcome.

Then we started through the process of transition from Pastor Matt's departure and preparing for your next pastor. I want to commend you for your patience and endurance as we moved along sometimes at glacial speed. I hope you will find, in the end, that it was worth taking time to remember, to explore, to envision, to dream. God has been guiding your every step as you put your trust and confidence in Him.

We had some interesting bumps along the way with COVID-19. In spite of this virus, God enabled us to continue undaunted. Who would have thought we'd have a Call meeting via Zoom? A few months ago, I hadn't even heard of Zoom. Now it's a household word. Included in our daily attire is a face mask. Some are really colorful.

So now a Call has been extended and we wait on the Lord continuing to put our trust and confidence in Him knowing that He already has a pastor in His mind that He wants to be your new shepherd. I will be anxious to hear how the Lord works this out for the benefit of His kingdom.

Now, it's time for me to go. There is a Scripture that says something like, "I must decrease so that he may increase." So, I must return home greatly enriched by your love and care and friendship. Sharon and I will always remember with joy our time as part of the Saint Mark 'Ohana.

May God richly bless you as you move forward in ministry touching the lives of people here in the Kane'ohe area as well as caring for and encouraging each other.

In His service,

*Pastor Les*





## *Missionary Update from the Beckendorf Ohana*

Dear Friends,

Greetings once again. Yes, it has been a long while since you heard from us, unfortunately the long intervals between updates seems to be becoming a habit with me . . . .

Well, I guess "change" is the word for the year. Things we had been planning on are now up in the air -- as I'm sure is the case for many of you also. Our main goal for this year is to publish our 'Panoramic Bible' for the Khwe; a Bible that has the main portions of the Old and New Testaments showing our need for a Savior and the good news of Jesus come into the world. We have been working on this for a long time, and were really hoping we could get this done and printed in 2020. Of course, God has his timeline, and it still could be possible that this goal is reached, but the virus pandemic will have an impact on it. Until the pandemic is over it will not possible to have community checks, or team checks. Checking with our consultant could be done remotely and we are thankful for the technology that allows for that.

As of now, Botswana has a few Coronavirus cases and at least one death. Our borders are closed, we are not allowed to leave our home/yard, many businesses are shut down, and public transportation has been stopped. Our translation office has closed by order of the Bible Society, so Tim worked up schedules in advance of the lock down for what the translators are supposed to get done while they are home. We are very thankful that Tim was able to travel down to Maun to get supplies two weeks ago and we should be fine for a month or more, except for fresh food (and even then we may be able to get something from nearby). We are also very thankful to be living on a farm, so we have plenty of space in which to isolate ourselves. Tim and the boys have been having Frisbee golf tournaments every afternoon; one 'hole' is throwing the Frisbee over the house and land it on the water-tank on the other side (it is LOUD when a Frisbee hits a tin roof!), another 'hole' is a par 13 (or thereabouts) down our driveway with electric fencing, cacti patches, and the bush being the 'hazards' -- lots of holes, and they come back a bit bedraggled, but at least they are getting their exercise.

Any other changes? Well, yes. In December Tim successfully completed all his doctorate stuff and officially graduated in January. He is relieved. He would like to start visiting other translation projects with Dr. Megahan, our consultant, in preparation for being a consultant on his own at some point.

Praises: - Thanksgiving for supplies and the possibility that we may be able to get more via a truck that might come once a week from down south.

- Thanksgiving that we and the translators can work from home.

Prayers: \* Please pray that the translators and Tim would be able to continue work, each on his own (typically the translators are much more productive when they work in a group).

\* Please pray that our team will reach our goal for the year.

\* Please pray for Botswana, that the virus spread would be minimal and people would take precautions.

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

Tim, Lisa, Aaron & Andrew Beckendorf





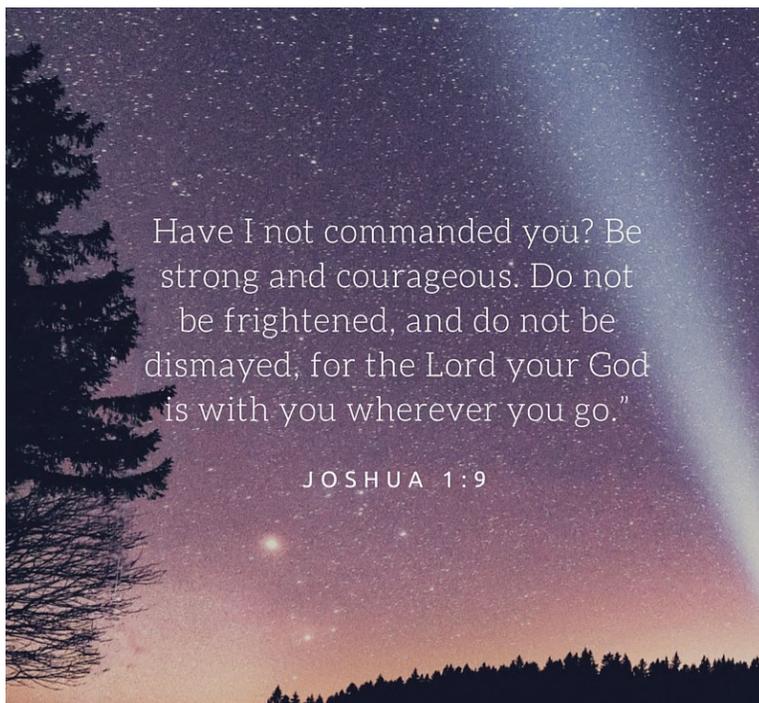
## *Inspirational Bible Verses*



The steadfast love of the Lord  
never ceases; his mercies never  
come to an end; they are new  
every morning; great is your  
faithfulness.

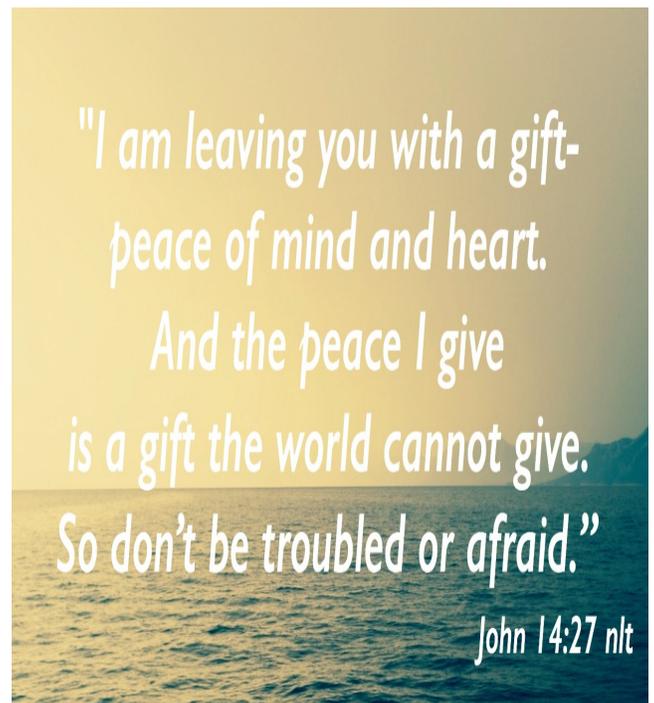
*Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV*

*King Vin*



Have I not commanded you? Be  
strong and courageous. Do not  
be frightened, and do not be  
dismayed, for the Lord your God  
is with you wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9



"I am leaving you with a gift-  
peace of mind and heart.  
And the peace I give  
is a gift the world cannot give.  
So don't be troubled or afraid."

*John 14:27 nlt*





## *May Announcements*

*With our State still under “stay-at-home” orders until May 31st, Saint Mark Lutheran Church will still be temporarily closed to the public during the month of May. All regularly scheduled monthly activities and meetings will either be cancelled or conducted over Zoom conference calls. Thanks to Dar Fink, offering donations can be placed online quick and easy! Just visit [www.stmarkhawaii.org](http://www.stmarkhawaii.org). All current and previously recorded weekly Sermons are also available on our website.*

*As you all know, Pastor Les will be leaving our Church Ohana on May 3rd. Although we are extremely sad to see him go, we are very grateful and will be forever touched by the impact he has made on us all. What an amazing servant of God and what a wonderful friend we have found in him! Although we couldn't give him a proper Hawaii send-off, our hearts and prayers, and appreciation will carry him all the way back to Arizona!*

*As our State slowly begins to re-open, we just want to thank our Church Ohana for being patient and faithful during this time. We know this “new normal” has been extremely trying on everyone. What a joyous day it will be when we can worship, fellowship, and pray together once again! Just know that regardless of how discouraging it might feel at times, Our Lord Jesus Christ is ALWAYS watching over us, has us all in HIS hands, and is forever Faithful.*

*Please always feel free to email us your prayer concerns, or contact your designated Elder. We are all in this together!*





## May Birthday's



5/6

Kenneth Rupnow

5/9

Rachel Schmidley

5/15

Audrey Rushforth

5/17

Joffre Lander

5/19

Elizabeth Slavens

5/20

Jean Chaffin

5/21

Max Yamaguchi

5/22

Dan Chaffin

5/23

Liz Chaffin

5/23

Miriam McMillian

5/29

Darlene Fink



*Happy Anniversary!*

5/3

Dole

5/19

Fink

5/20

Leech

5/24

Pescht





# NBA



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Normal Office Hours Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm					1	2 8:00am - Food Bank (Cancelled)
3 8:30am - Sunday School (Cancelled) 9:30am- Worship/Fellowship (View on SMLC Website) 10:45am - SMLC Choir Practice (Cancelled)	4	5 7:00pm - Elder's Meeting (Cancelled)	6 10:00am - Bible Study/ Prayer-Warriors (Cancelled)	7 6:00pm - Board of Ed. Meeting (Cancelled)	8	9 8:00am - Food Bank (Cancelled)
10 8:00am - Easter Service (View on SMLC Website) 10:45am - SMLC Choir Practice(Cancelled) 11:00am - Parish Ed. Meeting (Cancelled)	11	12	13 10:00am - Bible Study/ Prayer-Warriors (Cancelled)	14 7:15pm - Worship Team (Cancelled)	15	16 8:00am - Food Bank (Cancelled)
17 8:30am- Sunday School (Cancelled) 9:30am- Worship/Fellowship (View on SMLC Website) 10:45am - SMLC Choir Practice (Cancelled) 11:00am - LWML Mite Box Sunday (Cancelled)	18	19 6:00 pm - Church Council Meeting (Cancelled)	20 10:00am - Bible Study/ Prayer-Warriors (Cancelled)	21 7:15pm- Worship Team (Cancelled)	22	23 8:00am - Food Bank (Cancelled)
24 8:30am- Sunday School (Cancelled) 9:30am- Worship/Fellowship (View on SMLC Website) 10:45am - SMLC Choir Practice (Cancelled)	25	26	27 10:00am - Bible Study/ Prayer-Warriors (Cancelled)	28 7:15pm- Worship Team (Cancelled)	29	30