



Pastor's Message By Monalisa Lupi Halapua

First, we are heralds of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the greatest news ever given, and we do that through preaching and teaching." It's a unique role and a high calling, translating the ministry into the body of Christ and into the world. I am pastor Monalisa L. Halapua. I greet you all here in West Kauai UMC and around the community wherever you are at.

I have served here at West Kauai UMC for almost a year now. Being a pastor "means the world" to me, and it is a highly serious, "difficult but joy-filled" calling. I serve God and the Gospel of Christ, but I also serve others in so many ways, not only the congregation but anyone. As a pastor I help human souls and change human destinies. I am blessed to be able to serve my brothers and sisters in Christ here in West Kauai UMC. They're a wonderful congregation that I can't thank enough for accepting me. "God knows better than me." If there is one thing that I have been learning (and re-learning) over this past year, it's simply this one truth: "God knows better than me." God has been wonderfully patient and kind to me.

I want to focus on my relationship with you—my church family. I want to pray better for you. I want to preach better sermons for you. I want to lead and oversee this church body in better and greater ways. Since these are my top priorities this year, I promise you that I will take my responsibilities to the utmost commitments. Yes, I must still participate in my roles as feeding you spiritually and building relationships with the Lord.

I'm excited at the possibility of our journey together this year. Let see what God has in store For Us—Because—Well— He Knows Better Than Us.

Abundant Blessings

In March 2024, WKUMC received a generous donation of \$1000 from Paul Tumbaga representing his siblings – Ida Tumbaga, Daisy and Pascual Rarama, Haydee and David Walters, Allen and DeliaMarie Tumbaga in memory of their parents, relatives and friends. It was an unexpected gift so faithfully given. The donation will be earmarked for the repair of the Kekaha sanctuary roof. Thank you to Paul and his family for always thinking of their home church.

In April 2024, the United Women of Faith chapter of Northern Baltimore County (Joyce Quintavalle's unit) sent a generous donation of \$250 to the Mangan Tayon Feeding Program of WKUMC. Their treasurer, Sue Kline writes "It's our pleasure to enclose this check from our Women of Faith chapter to yours for the Mangan Tayon program. May our mighty God multiply it to the benefit of many." Thank you, Sisters in Christ for this gift.

Congratulations 2024 Graduates!

Our beloved young adults, Ana and Draven Feleunga–Po'oi graduated on May 24, 2024, from our almighty Waimea High School. Their senior project was based on community service through the WKUMC programs and participation in community events. Examples were taking care of the property, helping with Kupuna Food distribution, participating at the Waimea town Celebration just to name a few. Mom, Enislina (Lina) Feleunga shares that Ana and Draven made many friends and blended well into the student body. For their post high school plans, Draven plans to join the Marines. Ana is interested in working with animals and children. She's also interested in being a nurse's aide.

Taylor Langaman graduated in May 2024 from Northern Arizona University. She received her master's degree in public health. John and Flo Langaman traveled to Arizona for her graduation. The Sherman family, Jessica, Chad and Lucas also attended this special event.

The members and Friends of WKUMC wish our graduates the best of luck in their future endeavors. Go in love and peace with our blessings!



Editor's Note



The Train of Life

Micah 6:8 "What does the lord require of you: act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God."

I chose to recycle this article from a previous newsletter dated June 2017. Lyndon Yamane, Mr. Jose Bulatao, Jr. (Mr. B) and I worked together then. Author unknown, the message is timeless.

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believed they will always travel by our side. However, at some station, our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. As time goes by, other people will board the train, and they will be significant that is the love of your life, our siblings, friends, children. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells.

Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves. The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty, we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love! More importantly thank God for the journey. Lastly, I thank YOU for being one of the passengers on my train.

Pat Pablo

Helping Out Our Kekaha Community

By Del Ishibashi

Whenever we can reach out to the community, WKUMC will! We hold our annual rummage sale and our monthly food deliveries with Mangan Tayon and also in partnership with the Kauai Independent Food Bank. This time around, our calling was to help at St. Theresa School, just a couple of blocks down from our Kekaha Church.

Our church was asked to participate by cooking our popular malasadas at St. Theresa School's annual carnival. It was such a memorable event! We cooked just one food item under the spacious tent, and we implemented the constructive feedback that our members shared previously. We even shared the booth space with St. John's Episcopal Church on Friday night.

The turnout of volunteers was awesome as they helped with malasadas preparation, transporting items to and from the booth, working steadily at their stations for two nights, and cleaning up everything right after worship service. Our malasadas ministry lives on!! Mahalo to all



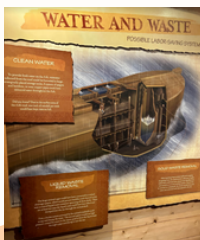
Visit to the Ark

By Elena Engelsman



I recently visited the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum in KY. The Creation Museum is located in Hebron. It represents God's creation of the universe and disputes the theory of evolution. The museum attracts not only Christians but also agnostics, atheists, and non-believers. Non-Christian people are able to research the information given to hopefully satisfy their beliefs and, hopefully, to convert them to become God's disciples.

The Ark Encounter is located in Williamstown, about 40 miles south. It is a biblical theme park with its 3-story replica of the Noah's Ark (510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high) as the center point of the park. It's amazing and unbelievable what considerations were taken into the construction. The construction included a sewer system and ventilation as well. Both parks cover several acres. They have beautifully landscaped gardens with plants that still exist from biblical times, zoos, theaters, gift shops and restaurants. It was time well spent at both places.



United Women in Faith Fundraiser



Despite the torrential rain and flooding situation on Kauai, the UWF accomplished their goal by fulfilling the orders of huli-huli chicken for customers. Marisa, Becky and Ana were at the Veteran's center with the vendor packing up the grilled chicken for patrons who drove through to pick up the precious items.

Another pick up point was set up in Kaumakani Hall to provide a closer site for Westsiders. Other members bagged the chicken while enjoying the aroma and exclaiming the size of the chicken.

Some of the UWF projects are mailing out devotionals, supplying Nana's House (a community center) with requested items such as detergent, hygiene products, providing bags for children in church and sending a donation to the UWF unit of Lahaina UMC after the wildfires. The women thanked everyone for continued support!

Methodist Vine



Celebrating Father's Day

Pat Pablo: Dad, **Placido Valenciano, Sr.** – Dad was a creative welder, loved his church and family and cooked the best pancit.

Del Ishibashi: Dad, **Mauro Cadavona**: Active in church, ILWU, Senior Center, loved wearing Aloha shirts and Barong, a basket weaver.

Adela Ochinang: Dad, **Simplicio "Piciong" Ochinang**: Hard worker, fun, loving, caring and loved to read the Bible (Ilocano and English). Worked as the "Ditch man" for Kekaha Sugar Company. A great gardener who planted the 3 pine trees at WKUMC Kekaha.

Danette Wise: Dad, **Mariano Vea**: Kekaha Plantation Sugar journeyman welder, great property investor, cooked some ono bindongo.

John Langaman: Dad, **Juan Langaman**: Ballsy, a true pioneer. He sacrificed immeasurably. A quiet, loving, humble man. So brave in many ways. Just a straight up provider. So innovative, he reminded me of a Filipino MacGyver. Very proud to carry on his legacy.

John Langaman: Father-in-law, **Mauro Cadavona**. Tough, hardball and caring. He was a doer and a go getter. Once I became approval status, he treated me as his own. Truly appreciated that. And he made the most bomb exotic Filipino food especially when it came to the most undesirable ingredients.

June Akuna: Dad, **Mariano Valenciano**: Actively participated in church after the death of his young daughter, Lourdes, as liturgist and delegate to the annual conference. Heard he was a swinging bachelor. Smooth dancer, fancy dresser and smiled a lot.

Glenda Miyazaki: Dad, **Placido Valenciano, Sr**: Innovative, loved family, liked to learn new things, loved to dance.

Whitney Rowe Miller: Dad, **Bob Rowe**: Bob's words of wisdom, "Your heaven is the way people remember you when you are gone. Life is an adventure. If you're not living, you're dying."

Pat Pablo: Father-in-law, **Ajerico "Rico" Pablo**: Serious Sunday School teacher, active in politics and ILWU. Spokesman for the underdog, devoted to wife and family, sang bass, loved his church.

Crystal Rowe: Mentor, **Mr. B**: Instilled pride in our Filipino culture, creative genius with a dramatic flair, musical maestro, demanding at practice but playful during live performances, visionary, loved his church and island community.

Flo Langaman: Dad, **Mauro Cadavona**: He shined and polished his shoes after every outing, always made sure he never ran out of pomade.

Marjorie Works: Dad, **John Works**: My Dad used to take us on vacation to Freedom, New Hampshire every year where my mom, Lucy, was born. Dad promised grandad he would bring her home every year.

Alyssa Vea: Dad, **Anthony Vea**: Best cook, best Dad and best Papa to Anakoni.

Anthony Vea: Dad, **Carlos Vea**: My memory of my dad was he was a good musician. He could play drums and guitar. He was the drummer for the Starlighters.

Mentor, **Fred Acoba**: Tata Fred was my mentor for cooking. All kinds of Filipino food, pork, peas and pimentos and others.

Pris Badua: Dad, **Alfredo Gubaton**: Artist, musician, union activist, faithful church member, loves his daughter.

Debbie Valenciano: Dad, **Richard Ihara**: Loved his family, vehicles, pets and gardening. Was generous, kind, and hard working. He grew the most beautiful gardenias and tropical flowers. Daily, he would faithfully clean 5 cars at least twice a day.

Randon, Marisa, Dreana: Dad, **Randal Valenciano**: Wise, funny, motivated and driven, loves his family enjoys morning walks, tending to bonsai, sports and reading devotionals.

Jess and Lucas Sherman: Papa, **John Langaman**: dedicated father, Papa and husband, makes the best adobo, always makes time to play/run outside with me, always taking care of others before taking care of himself. Best football coach.

Makoa Tumbaga-Efhan: Dad, **Ikaika Efhan**: Protector, lover of Atlanta Braves and Pittsburgh Steelers, loves to travel, especially to Las Vegas.

Jobyna Efhan: Dad, **Job Tumbaga**: Homebody, loves shopping on Amazon and enjoys putting stickers on cards, letters and envelopes.

Ikaika Efhan: Dad, **Vince "Kutie" Efhan**: Role model, taught me everything about baseball and fishing, and family man.

Taylor Langaman: Dad, **John Langaman**: Always puts everyone first, thinks of everything, best husband to mom, Flo and best father to me and my sister Jessica.

Michael, Marlo and Noel Torres: Dad, **Dr. Mariano Torres**: A remarkable Dad, a dedicated medical physician, a proud military serviceman, embodies the virtues of discipline, courage and compassion, cherishes time on the golf course and always making time for each of us three children and our children.

Toni Torres/ Lita Leonhardt: Dad **Antonio Villanueva Abrahano**: awesome tennis player, active community leader, the go-to guy when community issues arose. He was not a hunter or fisherman, but we always had venison and manini on the table.

Rey Guirao: Always ready to give a helping hand, loves to sing tenor and did a great solo of "In His Time," and travels to visit grandkids in Washington.

Skye, Isla, Dean, Jentzen: Papa, **Roland Pablo**: Tells us stories of his work, practices baseball with me, picks me up from school, takes us to the beach and buys us things.

Skye, Isla, Dean: Dad, **Don Sanchez**: helps me with my homework, buys things to make the house look nice, pitches baseball to me for practice.

Letters to Dad

Dear Dad,

I just want to thank you for everything you have done for us! Dad you were the bravest soul I ever saw; I just want to thank you for always being there for me when no one was there. You gave me wings to fly and the confidence to move on. Thank you for never giving up on me. Thank you for supporting me in my many dreams. You were my strength and my lifeline. Papa, thank you for believing in me when I couldn't believe I could do it. For unconditional care for all your 4 daughters for everything you have done and never complained. Thank you so much Papa. I am me just only because of you. Daddy you were my first love and I'll always be your favorite (hhh). Papa MY STRENGTH, MY SUPERHERO. Happy heavenly Father's Day to my dad and to all dads out there. LOVE YOU DAD,

Pastora

Dad,

There might not be a better day to say it. There are no sufficient words to express it. If ever I get to fulfill any wish of mine, it'll only be to see you one more time and be your daughter again, just for a much longer period. I am often told I look like you and nothing makes me happier than that. If I had to create a God, I'd make Him in your image. Even though you aren't physically around, your presence is felt and cherished in every moment of my life. You've been an inspiration, my hope my emotional resort. When nothing works, I always look at your picture and let my heart make the decision. It encourages me to keep moving every day and to live happily like you would want for me. I wish you were here daddy. There were certain days when I cried because I did not want to live a day without you. And also, I am happy to tell you that your little girl is a strong woman now, just as you used to say. I'll make sure that I live up to all the dreams you had for me. I am graduating with Draven this year. The future is out there. Be with us and watch over us. I love you Dad with all that I am. Happy Heavenly Father's Day, Dad.

Ana Po'oi

Dates to Remember

June 11-15	Annual Conference
June 16	Father's Day
June 26	Food Distribution 10 am in Kaumakani
July 4	Family Fun Day WKUMC Fundraiser in Kekaha
July 5 & 19	Bible Study 6 pm on Zoom
July 31	Food Distribution 10 am in Kaumakani
August 2 & 16	Bible Study 6 pm on Zoom
August 16	Hawaii Admission Day: Holiday
August 28	Food distribution 10 am in Kaumakani
September 7	WKUMC Rummage Sale in Kaumakani

Contact Information

Mailing Address:
PO Box 298
Kekaha, HI 96752

Physical Address:
8563 Elepaio Road
Kekaha, HI 96752

Website:
www.westkauaiumc.org

Email:
westkauaiumc@gmail.com

Phone: 808-337-1464

Summer Word Search

S U M S A N D A L S J M H E R
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Bible Laughs

How do you make holy water?
You boil the hell out of it.

What kind of car would Jesus drive?
A Christler

How did Joseph make his coffee?
Hebrewed it

How do pastors like their orange juice?
With pulpit

AUGUST
BARBECUE
BASEBALL
BEACH
BIKING
GOLF
HATS
HOLIDAY
HOT
HUMID

JULY
RELAX
SANDALS
SHORTS
SOCCER
SUNBURN
SUNSCREEN
SUNTAN
SWIMMING
VACATION